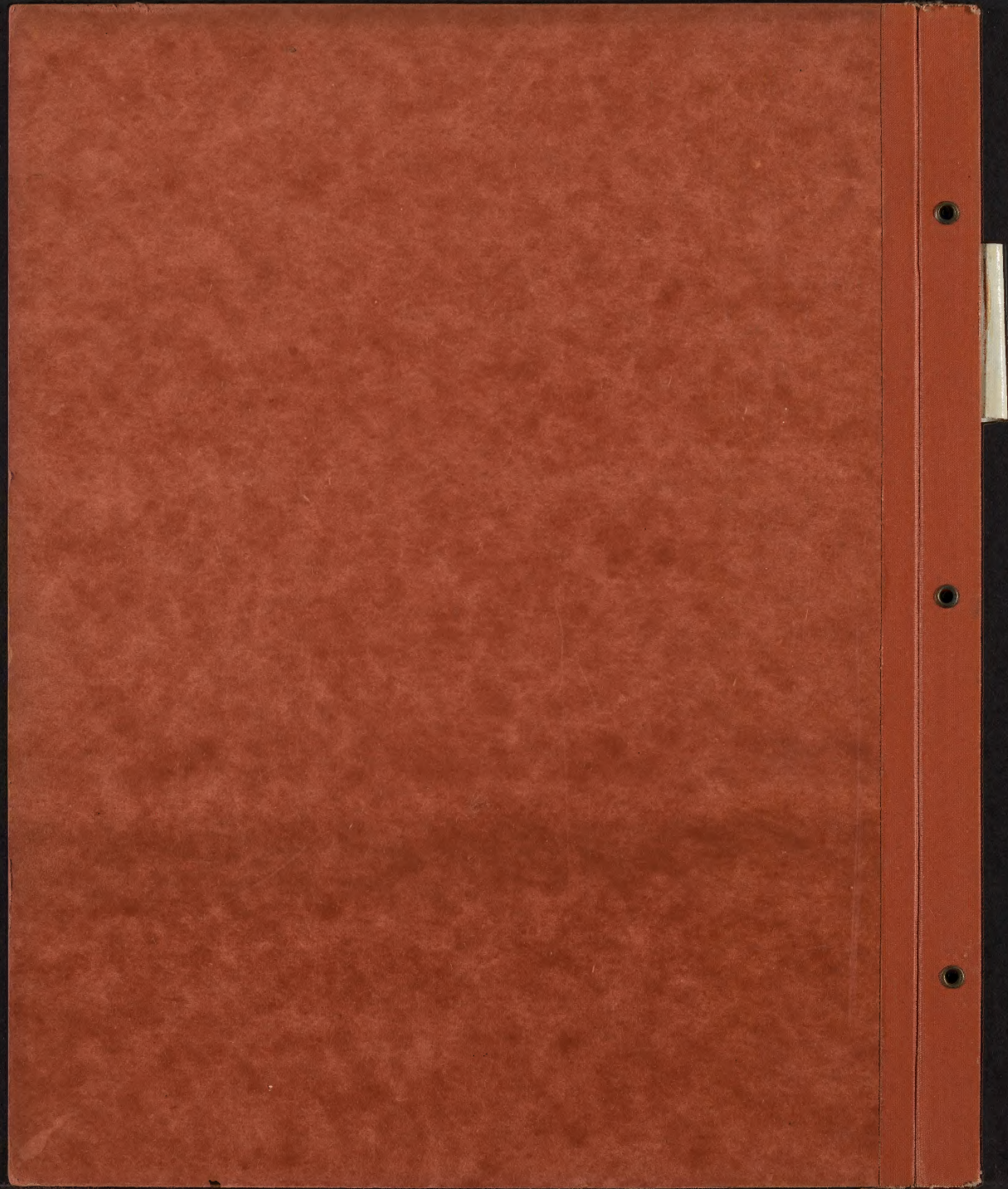


Journal. 1900. (16)
June-Dec.

at
Dec.



Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

June 1

Forenoon sunny & calm, somewhat hazy. After noon
calm & hazy. Ther. 62°-84°

Marginal notes have been checked by
Wm. Brewster in April, 1907.

The Umbagog checked notes I have copied
and inserted into the Umbagog list.

Walter Deane,
May, 1907.

(Field list copied by W. D.)

of the cabin and singing there almost incessantly for
nearly half-an-hour. I cannot recall ever hearing one sing
so freely here before. His voice was as full and his
bars as finished as if he were in the north woods.

At about seven o'clock this morning a Wood Thrush sang
for several minutes in the woods across the river opposite
Ball's Hill.

The Gray-cheked Thrush was a large & very dark-colored
bird. I found him in the bushes along the river path
where he flitted on ahead of me keeping so hidden &
at such a distance that I could not get a good view
of him. But when I began making a low sweeping sound
he stopped and sitting perched on a twig by the side of
the path about six inches above the ground remained
there perfectly motionless until I almost put my hand
on him. Actually I was not more than three or four feet
from him when the shell was finally broken & he flew
away, this time out of sight.

In the afternoon Gilbert & I rowed up the river
to Long's Meadows to get some plants. There Long-billed
Marsh Wrens were singing at Mount Dam Rapids & on
found a fourth as well as two Short-bills in
Long's Meadows. Bobolinks appeared to be less numerous

that I could find
Gray-cheked Thrush,
a ♂ Black-poll Warbler
Lincoln's Thrush added
to the rolls just west

North-bound
migrants.

✓
Olive-backed
Thrush in
full song.

✓
Wood Thrush.

✓
Gray-cheked
Thrush.

Long-
Short-billed
Marsh Wrens

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

June 1

Forenoon sunny & calm, somewhat hazy. Afternoon cloudy with strong S. W. wind. Evening calm & hazy. Ther. 62°-84°

The only north-bound migrants that I could find at Ball's Hill this morning were a Gray-cheked Thrush, a ♂ Water Thrush in full song and a ♂ Black-poll Warbler also singing. But at evening a Swainson's Thrush added himself to the list by coming into the oaks just west of the cabin and singing there almost unceasingly for nearly half-an-hour. I cannot recall ever hearing one sing so freely here before. His voice was as full and his tone as finished as if he were in the northern woods.

North-bound migrants.

Olive-backed Thrush in full song.

At about seven o'clock this morning a Wood Thrush sang for several minutes in the woods across the river opposite Ball's Hill.

Wood Thrush.

The Gray-cheked Thrush was a large & very dark-colored bird. I found him in the bushes along the river path where he flitted on ahead of me keeping to hidden & at such a distance that I could not get a good view of him. But when I began making a low sweeping round he stopped and sitting perched on a twig by the side of the path about six inches above the ground remained there perfectly motionless until I almost put my hand on him. Actually I was not more than ten or four feet from him when the shell was finally broken & he flew away, this time out of sight.

Gray-cheked Thrush.

In the afternoon Gilbert & I roamed up the river to Long's Meadows to get some plants. There Song-billed Marsh Wrens were singing at Mearns Dam Rapids & on several a fourth as well as two Short-bills in Long's Meadows. Bobwhites appeared to be less numerous

Song & Short-billed Marsh Wrens

Concord Mass.

1900

June 1
(no 2)

these usual but perhaps this was mainly because of the cloudy weather & high wind for the bird or eight that we saw were for the most part silent.

Red wings have been positively scarce about Ball's Hill of late but higher up the river we found them in about the usual numbers. They were greatly disturbed & probably with good reason at the presence of three or four Crows which were flying from place to place on the meadows pursued by the excited swarms of Red-wings whose nests they were doubtless seeking.

Most of small birds nests which we have thus far found near Ball's Hill have been robbed of their eggs almost as soon as they were laid. I suspect that the Blue Jays are the culprits for I see them constantly hovering about as if in search of nests. Two came into the tent near the cabin early this morning & apparently inspected a Cat bird's nest with 3 eggs & a Redstart's with 2 but they did not molest either although they alighted for a moment within a foot or two of each. Perhaps they were waiting for the first lot or they may have been conscious of my observation. Both the Cat birds & the Redstarts uttered a rather fluttered about them with anxious cries. I wonder if they really do destroy other birds' eggs to any extent. Something certainly does so here & the Jays themselves seem to suffer as much as any of the other birds. One of their nests which I found at Davis's Hill with the bird sitting was empty two days later & another in the Blackstone woods was raided after the bird had been sitting a week or more.

Balls Hill.
Bobolinks
scarce.

Red-wings

Blue Jays
roosting(?)
nests of
other birds

Blue Jays
have their
own nests
despoiled

Concord, Mass.

1900
June 1
(no 3)

The most noteworthy incident of the day was
our finding a Coot (Fulica) in the river. We had
just rounded the bend at the foot of the Holt
when the bird started from the edge of a bed
of half-submerged Canary grass and paddled off
over the water half-swimming, half-flying. As it
passed us within 20 yards I saw its white bill
with absolute distinctness & thus made sure that
it was not a Gallinule. It alighted below us
& when we turned back was again & flew up
river crossing the meadow to get past us. We
started it a third time just above the head of
the Holt. This time it kept on up river &
was lost to sight behind some bushes we did
not see it again. Some Cedars who called here on
the 30th coming from Concord by canoe, told
us of a "Duck" which started them by "flashing
out of a bed of grass" just ahead of them as
they rounded a bend. Perhaps this bird was
this Fulica. I cannot imagine what it is
doing here at this season. It does in good
plumage with a very black head & neck & it
seemed alert and flew with great vigor after
it got fairly started. Indeed after the first
rise when we no doubt caught it unaware it
kept in open water & was so shy that we
did not again get within very gunshot.

A Coot
(Fulica)
in the river
at the Holt

The Loons are making an outrageous noise to-night.
They began it about sunset when several came down the
hillside past the cabin squawking long before they reached the water.

Loons
squawking

1900.

June 2

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill

Sunny and cloudy by turns with violent S.W. to W. wind which brought several light showers in the late afternoon. Ther. 68°-82° (76° at 7 P.M.).

The migrations have apparently wholly come to an end. I did not see or hear a single northern bird of any kind to-day and our local breeding species were reduced to their normal summer numbers, for the first time. At Balls Hill they were seen to be less than usual but I will not dwell on this point now as I intend making a careful census early to-morrow morning, if the weather is favorable for general singing. To-day the wind blew the birds often to & from, but they sang fairly well at home.

Migrations
apparently
over.

The nest-banding goes on nicely but we are as much as ever in the dark as to what bird or mammal or reptile is causing such bad destruction. This morning the Cat bird's nest in a bitter pine just E. of Gilbert's cabin was empty as was a Redstart's nest still further off in the same direction. At evening the Redstart's nest behind the cabin which had two eggs yesterday seemed to have the living taken out & the ♀ was just beginning a second nest in an oak that grows by Gilbert's door. Still another Redstart's nest in a dense leafy maple at the boat landing had been taken completely out of the fork & was hanging in a bush beneath. I heard the Jay behind the cabin this morning, a Crow Black-bird was flying about at noon and two Red Sparrows fed us a visit in the afternoon. There were also one or two Cuckoos of each species. Which of these creatures is the plunderer? The Blue Jay, I fear.

Nests ✓
despoiled
by Blue
Jays!?

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 2
(no 2.)

The Partridge was sitting on the nest on the W. side of Ball's Hill Swamp when Gilbert visited it at 11 a. m. yesterday. To-day at 9.30 a. m. he found the eggs hatched and the whole family gone. This nest was found May 11th when it contained its full complement of 9 eggs. At that date they looked fresh but the bird was sitting close. The mate is, I suppose, the ♂ that has been drumming through the spring on the stone wall at the E. end of Ball's Hill (this station is about 200 yards from the nest on the opposite side of the swamp). We have heard him only a few times since May 11th, usually just at evening, the latest occasions being May 29th & 31st. Gilbert brought in all the egg shells from this nest. They were not inspected as is usually the case but some of the smaller ends were inside the larger. I shall preserve them carefully just as they were found.

✓
The Ball's Hill
Partridge
hatches her
nine eggs.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

June 3

Cloudy with strong, cool E. wind. Heavy rain in late afternoon & well into the night.

Spent most of the forenoon in the woods on & near Balls Hill digging plants, visiting nests etc. In the bushes by the river I found a large, dark-colored & very tame Gray-checked Thrush. A Canadian Warbler was singing in the thump behind the hill where a pair usually breed. An ♀ Nashville Warbler was sitting on her nest and a male which I suppose must have been her mate singing in the pines at the opening beyond the thump.

Canada
Warbler.

The Redstart's nest in the oak behind Gilbert's cabin which was begun May 16th and which contained 2 eggs on June 1st looked disheveled last evening and as the bird had evidently deserted it and was beginning a new nest still nearer the cabin I felt sure that the eggs had been destroyed. Gilbert examined it this morning and found it empty. About an hour later I heard a Jay screaming and the next moment saw the bird coming high above the tree tops & evidently from a distance. It headed straight for the oak, alighted in the upper branches, screamed over & over and then with half-closed wings dropped 12 or 15 feet to the nest where it perched for about half-a-minute backing forward with its head turned on one side and its bill actually within the nest. Evidently, as it seemed to me, it had returned in the hope that another egg might have been laid since it visited yesterday for I can no longer doubt that not only a Jay but this particular Jay plundered the nest yesterday. Finding the nest empty this morning it flew back silently in the direction whence it had come. The Redstart seemed

Blue Jays
said the
nest of a
Redstart.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 3

(No 2)

much disturbed by its visit and after it had gone she fluttered down about the old nest and over newly entered it after which she went back to the new one and continued her work at it through the remainder of the forenoon.

From what I have seen during the past two weeks I should say that the Jays in the Ball's Hill region have destroyed, during this period, practically all the eggs that have been laid by the swallow birds in nests built in trees & bushes within the limits of this region. Their method of hunting for nests is peculiar & interesting. They start out soon after sunrise, usually in pairs but often three or four together, and move through the woods very slowly talking. They thus successively, hopping from twig to twig or sailing on set wings when the distance to be covered is greater than a foot or two, examining every fork or cluster of twigs deliberately & with great care. While thus engaged they seldom scream but they keep up almost incessantly a low, stuttering ee-ee-ee-ee which may be heard, of course, at other seasons but which is apparently used much more frequently during their egg-hunting than on any other occasions.

After dinner we packed up our things & put both cabins in order & left for Cambridge by the 4.10 train crossing the river & walking up to the Station in a pouring rain. This ended my spring season at Ball's Hill in 1900 although I shall probably return there for a day or two at a time later in the present month.

Ball's Hill

Blue Jays
raiding for
birds' nests

We leave
Concord.

E. Waterbury, Mass.

1900.

June 5

Visited the hog back ridge opposite the Arsenal at E. Waterbury this forenoon to get some photographs. The weather was clear & still and the birds were singing well. I heard Robins, Cat-birds, Yellow Warblers, Redstarts, Maryland Yellow-throats, Song Sparrows, a Wood Pewee, a Yellow-throated Vireo and an Indigo Bird. Mournful Grackles in small numbers were flying to & from their nests in some tall pine trees on the top of the ridge. In an oak I saw a Blue Jay feed its mate precisely in the same way as at Concord a week or two ago, the bird receiving the food crouching, fluttering her wings feebly and making a low chirping sound like a young bird. No nest was visible & I cannot quite understand why the ♀(?) should have been fed when she was not sitting. /

Blue Jay
feeds its mate.

Warbling Vireos were singing in or near Silver Capped Poplars along the streets behind Mr. Anthony where I used to find them thirty or more years ago.

Watertown & Belmont, Mass.

1900.

June 7

Clear and warm with S. W. wind.

Off photographing most of the forenoon. C. drove me first to Arsenal Ridge where I found the same birds noted on the 5th. We next drove through Canyon Park where nothing of interest was observed (there seemed to be almost no birds there) and thence to the Waverley Waterfall where I heard a Golden-winged & a hooded Madder singing.

Over Deerfield & F. B. Mac Kinnon called during my absence. They were on their way to the Fresh Pond Swamp.

I saw Deerfield on his return in the afternoon. He found (and took) a Great Bittern's nest with 5 incubated eggs in the Glacialist marsh and an American Bittern's nest with 6 fresh eggs in the marsh between the Fresh Pond & Central R. R. tracks. Long-billed Marsh Wrens were numerous and two nests with eggs (one set containing 6) were found. No Rails were seen. Deerfield was told that some boys have been camping for several days in the Maple Swamp skinning Hensons for food!

Nests of
Scaup &
big Bittern

Boys camp
in Maple
Swamp &
skinned
Hensons
for food!

Belmont, E. Lexington & Waverly.

1900.

June 8

Clear with a fresh S. W. wind. Rather warm.

Starting at 9 a. m. I drove up the Turnpike to Belmont, through Prosper & Wash Steeds, past the Belmont Spring & over the hill ~~into~~ the borders of E. Lexington, through Wellington Lane, and back by way of the Meadows, Waverly mill ponds & Payson Park.

On the crest of the big ridge in Belmont I spent nearly Prairie two hours scanning the cedar pastures for Prairie Warblers Warblers nests. The barberry bushes were in bloom and in two apparently of the pastures that used to be among the best places gone from - there were very old typical places on Prosper Street & their old that near the spring glen at the western end of this haunts. street - the bushes were as numerous and luxuriant as ever but I found no nests nor did I see or hear any of the birds. Much of this region throughout which they used to breed in such numbers has been burned over this season, however, & all the barberry bushes killed to the ground. It appeared to contain few birds of any kind to-day. I heard a Golden-winged Warbler near the typical place and then Hockwicks further on where Field Sparrows were common as usual, I saw a Brown Thrasher & heard another singing. Only one Chestnut-sided Warbler was heard, & but one Towhee. The fine pitch pine & cedar woods which begin at the point where the road forks & extend westward to the swamp where I once found a Gray-crowned Oriole were now also practically ruined partly by fire & partly by the cutting out of many of the trees & work of the undergrowth. In them I could find nothing besides a House Wren & a Black-throated Green Warbler.

Golden wing.

Hockwicks W.

Bolton, E. Burlington & Norway.

1900.

June 8
(No 2)

The only place where I found Bobolinks numerous (or indeed at all here at Fish Pond where I saw one) was on the summit of the hill above the Bolton Spring. Here fine meadows were having one a crop of English grass & singing delightfully.

Bobolinks

Wellington Linn presented nothing of interest to me except Golden-winged Warbler. This species has evidently increased & spread in the Bolton region within the past fifteen years. It did not use to occur at any one of the three localities where I have found it this week.

Golden-wing
Warbler

A perfect mania for burning brush along roadsides & stone walls seems to have prevailed in the Bolton region the past Spring for the south side of the river. Wellington Linn had been thus disfigured and the Rock Meadows willows along the greater part of the north side of the conveyance are blackened and practically dead as the result of a recent fire. They appeared to shelter few birds but throughout the whole extent of the meadow itself Red-wings were as abundant as of yore.

Roadsides
despoiled of
their shrubbery

Rock Meadows

Red-wings

Yellow Warblers were also very numerous in many places in this locality as were also Song Sparrows. Strange to say we did not see nor hear a Cat-bird or Rose-breasted Grosbeak during the forenoon. Cuckoos & chiefly Yellow-birds, were fairly numerous. The Barn Swallows have apparently quite deserted the Brown farm at the cross roads (there are now no openings by which they can enter the old barn) and the only Swallows observed during our drive was a White-belly.

Yellow W.

White-belly

My general impression was that few if any birds have increased & very many have decreased within that region during the past fifteen years.

Belmont, E. Lexington & Waverley.

1900

June 8

The following species were noted to-day.

1. Turdus fuscescens, 5 or 6.
2. Murela nigrocapilla, 10 or 12.
3. Haerophylus rufus 2 ^{1 Prospect St.} ^{1 Waverley}
4. Parus atricapillus 1 ^{1 Prospect St.}
5. Mniotilta varia 1 ^{1 " " "}
6. Helminthophila chrysophaea 2 ^{1 Prospect St.} ^{1 Waverley}
7. " rubicapilla 3 ^{1 Prospect St.}
8. Dendroica aestiva 15 ^{1 Prospect St.}
9. " juncostrata 1 ^{1 Prospect St.}
10. " viridis 1 ^{1 " " "}
11. " vigorsii 1 ^{1 " " "}
12. Scirius auricapillus 1 ^{1 Prospect St.}
13. Geothlypis trichas 5 ^{1 Prospect St.}
14. Sotophaga ruticilla 2 ^{1 Prospect St.}
15. Vireo olivaceus 5 ^{1 Prospect St.}
16. " flavifrons 4 ^{1 Prospect St.}
17. " gilvus 5 ^{1 Prospect St.}
18. Amphisp. cedrorum (2) (2)
19. Tachycineta bicolor 1 ^{1 Prospect St.}
20. Piranga erythromelas 1 ^{1 Prospect St.}
21. Sporula pusilla 4 ^{1 Prospect St.}
22. Melospiza fasciata 20
23. Pipilo erythrophthalmus 1 ^{1 Prospect St.}
24. Cyanospiza cyanea 4 ^{1 Prospect St.}
25. Dolichonyx oryzivorus 1 ^{1 Prospect St.}
26. Molothrus ater (2) (2)
27. Agelaius phoeniceus 20 (Rock m.)
28. Icterus galbula 5
29. Loxia curvirostris (2) (2) (Waverley)
30. Corvus americanus 1
31. Cyanocitta cristata 1 (Prospect St.)
32. Tyrannus tyrannus 5
33. Sayornis phoebe 1
34. Contopus virens 5 ^{1 Prospect St.}
35. Chondestes pelagicus 1
36. Colaptes auratus 2
37. Coccyzus americanus 3 ^{1 Prospect St.}
38. " erythrophthalmus 1 ^{1 Prospect St.}
39. Buteo lineatus 1 ^{1 Prospect St.}

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 10

Brilliantly clear with S. W. wind. Cool for the season.

Took the 9 A.M. train to Concord. Drove first to Sleepy Hollows Cemetery to examine a nest of the Red-bellied Nuthatch. It was about 20 ft. above the ground in the dead top of a living gray birch which stands just inside the fence on the left side & within a few feet of the main entrance to the cemetery. The entrance hole was very small and neat being apparently as perfectly round & smooth as if it had been bored with a sharp bit. I could see no pitch although the bark around the hole was smooth & clean. I watched the tree for over ten minutes but no bird came to the nest. When Miss Mary A. White found it on May 30th one of the Nuthatches was calling "warms" with it at short, regular intervals & apparently feeding young. (Miss White saw the bird enter the hole with this food at least four times & emerge with empty bill). I suppose the brood must have departed for the nest has evidently not been disturbed. I hear that Dr. Reagh has found a Red-bellied Nuthatch's in Needham, Mass., this season. It contained several young & two or three "fresh" (probably infertile) eggs.

Spent the remainder of the forenoon driving through the Estabrook woods & back to town by way of the Bunker farm road. Saw three Indigo Birds perched on telegraph wires singing & a Red-throated Hawk. Heard a Wood Thrush near the Pine Kill.

Sleepy Hollows

Nest of
Red-bellied
Nuthatch

Estabrook
Road

Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14.

I went to Wareham on the afternoon of the 11th to spend a few days with my friend Orlan Thompson. He met me at the station & we drove directly to his country house. On the way over we saw ~~three~~ ^{Ring-necked} ~~Ring-necked~~ ^{Ring-necked} Pheasants, a solitary cock and a mated pair, all in open grassy fields by the roadside. I flushed the larger cock & Thompson the pair. They allowed us to get within a few yards of them in the grass & rising slowly. One bird ran a few feet before flushing. All three took long flights.

On reaching the house I was shown a Robin's nest with seven eggs, built in the top of a bush trap in the barn yard & a fine colony of Barn Swallows nesting in the open cellar under the barn. Then Whippoorwills were singing at one time in the early evening & at least one of them sang more of the night.

The 12th was a beautiful day, cloudless with a cool fresh breeze. We started off early and drove to the reservoir which I visited in 1894. On the way we passed a small, muddy pond where six Bald Eagles were in sight at once, four soaring over the open water, two sitting perched on dead trees on the shore. I was also shown a curious wooden tower under the eaves of which a Wood Duck nested a few years ago & which I photographed.

At the Reservoir I exposed several plates. The place has changed little since my former visit but many of the trees have fallen. Enough remain, however, to furnish nesting places for a large colony of the Swallows, as well as several pairs of Flickers & Bluebirds.

In the pitch pine grove on the west side of the

Robins nest
with 7 eggs
in bush trap

Whippoorwills

Bald
Eagles.
Wood Duck's
nest in
wooden tower

Tree Swallows

Wareham, Mass.

1900

June 12-14

(202)

pretty little pond we heard a Blackburnian Warbler singing. As Mr. Bangs had never met with this species in the Wareham region before he followed up the bird & shot it.

Blackburnian
Warbler

We walked entirely around this Reservoir having a Hermit Thrush & during a pair of Olive-sided Flycatchers but finding only one nest, that of a Pine Warbler with 4 badly-incubated eggs. I took a photograph of the tree after the nest & the branch which supported it had been removed.

Olive-sided
Flycatcher
Nest of
Pine Warbler.

At a similar but smaller Reservoir not far off we found a nest of the Worm Warbler Bird in a little pine & containing 3 eggs far advanced in incubation. This nest also we took. Several Tree Swallows were seen in strokes standing in the water & their Wood Ducks were from the head of the pond & ferns off together.

Nest of
Worm Warbler

We drove home very slowly working the horse most of the way and traversing miles of deeply rutted, sandy roads choked with brush or winding through woods of Hawthorn, fire-barked white pines, & some a few Hermit Thrushes were heard singing and as many Quail calling Coturnix. Prairie & Pawnee Warblers seemed everywhere & Pine Warblers were very abundant. We nearly ran over a large Partridge with her brood of recently-hatched young. It was sunset before we reached the house. In one of the last pieces of woods through which we passed a cock ~~Ring-necked~~ Pheasant crossed the road ahead of us and squatting in some thin grass within a yard of the car allowed us to drive by without moving.

Hermit
Thrushes

Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14.

(no 3)

At the middle of the tracks lay a dead skunk perfectly fresh and intact, still bleeding when it had been bitten off. The water from this was sooty, in discharging that some large animal, and one of the Otter had plunged into a pool before we reached the bank. Bangs saw an Otter hole a few days ago.

The 13th was another fine day but exceptionally warm for the Cape. We spent it driving slowly through miles and miles of wood roads, visiting the white pine swamp where Bangs took a nest of the Saw-whet Owl a few years ago, lunching on the sandy beach at the S.W. end of beautiful White Island Pond, where I took some photographs and collected plants of Sabbatia & Cougar woods, and one very house in the afternoon passing an interesting old hunting lodge - which I also photographed & which tradition avers was once a favorite resort of Daniel Webster, and traversing the bad, now dry and stony with blackened Union Mills, of the Cape rail pond which is interesting in 1894. A knoll shaded by white pine & rising in about the middle of the old pond was densely carpeted with Corina Canadensis.

The most noteworthy bird met with during the day was a Nashville Warbler which we heard singing near E. Wareham road which was quite new to Mr. Bangs' list. Prairie Warblers were heard everywhere but were in such numbers as yesterday. Four or five Hermit Thrushes were seen or heard. I found the fresh tracks of a Cape Otter on the banks of the above brook which traverses the old white pine swamp & directly beneath the thick which sheltered Bangs' Saw-whet Owl's nest. Three Eagles & a Red-tailed Hawk were seen. Bangs tells me that Deer are very scarce in this region but slowly increasing in numbers. The country has been burnt over in most places & a stiff undergrowth of oak & hawthorn has followed the fire.

nest of
Saw-whet Owl

Hunting
lodge once
frequented by
Daniel Webster

Nashville
Warbler.

Prairie
Warblers &
Hermit Thrush
Otter tracks

Eagles.
Red-t. Hawk.
Deer.

Wareham, Mass

1900

June 12-14

(No 32/)

Oliver
signed

The foot-note to "other tracks" on the page just before this was not written at the same time as the rest but on February 28, 1909, just after confirming my recollection of the dead albatross, the sooty eagle and the other "seen a few days before", by questioning Ostrander Bangs about these things. He remembered them all perfectly. Had it not been so I should not have mentioned them here, nor in the article on Oliver which I have just sent to "Seaside" for publication. The reason why they were not mentioned originally was probably because I had so much to write about the interesting visit to Wareham in June, 1900.

Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14

(No 4)

The 14th was cloudy with drizzling rain at intervals and one really heavy shower just before noon.

We took a new route to-day driving through Wareham to the westward into a region very generally and in places heavily wooded with white pines. When the distinctive forest fire had not reached the woods were flourishing & attractive but more often than found about Concord there in the country which we have traversed the past two days. The birds which they attracted were much the same, however & the only species noted which we had not seen before on our drive were the Scarlet T. Gnatcatcher & Coppy & Parula.

Locust 7.
Parula.
Hickory Hawk.

We lunched on the banks of a trout brook with a hillside covered with tall white pines behind us. A little lower down the brook was a meadow deeply carpeted with Sphagnum where Arctostaphylos & some remarkably fine Cadise Hellebore were in full bloom and purple fringed orchids thrusting up their numerous leaves.

The afternoon was so dark & threatening that we returned to the house earlier than we had intended.

I have said comparatively little about the birds met with during this drive because I wanted noting them in systematic order in the pages to follow the above general narration of my visit.

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14

(no 5)

The numbered species in the following list were met with during my stay; those without numbers & enclosed in brackets have been found on former occasions by Mr. Bangs.

1. *Turdus palmeri*. - Common throughout the pitch pine & oak woods. Five males heard singing on the evening of the 12th and several birds seen on this & the following day. On the evening of the 14th one was singing within hearing of the Bangs' house. These Plymouth County birds do not seem to me to sing as well as do those in western New England.
2. *Mniota migratoria*. - Abundant in the villages & about farm & country houses, but decidedly uncommon in the woods. At least six or seven pairs were breeding on the Bangs' place, where they nest most frequently under sheds & the roofs of piazzas. I first photographed and afterwards took a nest with 7 eggs which was built in the top of a pile of dry, English brush in the barnyard. Three of the eggs were fresh, three added, & one contained a small dead embryo.
3. *Salpinctes carolinensis*. - Ordinarily common according to Mr. Bangs but only two or three were seen during my stay.
4. *Harporhynchus rufus*. - Apparently not numerous. He heard one singing and saw two or three others. The open scrubby woods on the beach would seem to be admirably adapted to this species.

near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14. 5. Scalioa bicolor. - Common and very generally distributed
(no 6) breeding not only in or near the villages but
throughout the more open portions of the pitch pine
& oak woods. Brood of young on wing June 14th.

6. Poens atricapilla. - Common, especially in pitch pine woods.

7. Mniotilta varia. - Common in the older oak woods but
not seen in the pitch pines or in the younger
more healthy oak-grown tracts.

8. Helminthophila rubicapilla. - A ♂ in full song June 13th
in oak woods near East Wareham. Mr. Bangs
has never before observed this species in Plymouth
County although the region seems admirably
adapted to its requirements.

9. Comptosia a. usneae. - Abundant and very generally
distributed but most common, of course, in
swampy woods where the Usnea grows most
profusely. We found a pretty well containing three
eggs on the point of hatching on June 12. The
nest was in a pitch pine about 10 ft. above the
ground. The ♀ was shy & nervous invariably leaving
the nest before we were near the tree & returning
to it with great caution & circumspection after
we had left its immediate vicinity. The ♂
joined her after we had examined the nest.

10. Dendroica aestiva. - Confined to the immediate neighborhood
of villages & cultivated grounds where it was common.

near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14. 10. Dendroica pennsylvanica. — Common about swamps and also found sparingly in the oak knobs on the Great Combs.

12. Dendroica blackburnii. — On the morning of June 12 we found a ♂ in full song in rather open pitch pine woods on a hillside bordering a swamp in Wareham. As it was the first bird of the species which Mr. Bangs has ever found in this region in the breeding season he shot & preserved the specimen, which was in fairly high plumage. Although no ♀ or nest was discovered I think it highly probable that both were easily hidden somewhere in the top of one of the pines near where the ♂ was singing.

13. Dendroica virens. — Common in an extensive white pine swamp bordering a brook and also sparingly distributed throughout the older pitch pine woods.

14. Dendroica virens. — Abundant throughout the pitch pine woods even when the trees were small & widely scattered. On June 12th we found a nest containing 4 eggs on the point of a bushy. The nest was some 12 ft. above the ground near the top of a small, slender, shrubby pitch pine which stood on a sandy hillside where the fires had almost completely denuded of vegetation.

15. Dendroica discolor. — The whole Wareham region is lately growing with Prairie Warblers this season. I should say that their numbers have increased

1900.

June 12-14 (Dendroica discolor) many fold since my previous visit in
(no 7) I have never seen them so numerous elsewhere. From morning to
night extensive or ~~about~~ their songs were almost constantly
singing in one code and often three or four notes were
heard singing on over. Their favorite haunts were the more
open woods where the larger trees have been thinned by forest fire
and the ground is densely covered by young spruce growths
(almost exclusively of oaks) from two to five or six feet in height
and the extensive tracts of bare oaks which border the woods
and roadsides or extend over hundreds of acres on the
open, moss-covered, barren hills but we heard them in
many places where the ground was heavily shaded by old,
densely-growing trees. Throughout this region, according to
Mr. Bangs, the note is invariably placed in an oak sapling
only a few feet above the ground.

The typical song here is peculiar; the first three notes are all
on the same key and given slowly in a drawing tone; they
are immediately followed by four shorter, more rapidly uttered
notes each of which is on a higher key than the one preceding it.
A few notes, however, long as do our Baltimore Orioles.

16. Seiurus aurocapillus. - Common & very generally distributed
but less numerous, I should say, than in the region near
Proctor & Concord.

17. Geothlypis trichas. - Very common along water courses &
in brushy swamps.

18. Setophaga ruticilla. - Not common or, at least, only
very locally to being confined to a few heavily
brushed swamps.

1900.

June 12-14

(1891)

[Sylvia canadensis. - Mr. Bangs has found this species in summer in an extensive white pine swamp bordering a cold trout stream. He visited this swamp on the 13th but failed to find any Canadian warblers, I have no doubt they breed there, however, for the swamp is full of sphagnum covered mounds.]

19. Vireo olivaceus. - Common and very generally distributed.

[" nestroensis. - Mr. Bangs has found a few pairs. I remember seeing a ♂ singing in a swamp not far from Wareham during my visit in June 1894.]

20. Ampelis cedrorum. - Common especially in pitch pine woods near the reservoir where we found one or two nests in 1894.

21. Progne subis. - Two small colonies in the village of Wareham.

22. Hirundo erythrogastra. - Very common. A dozen pairs or more were nesting in a barn cellar at the Bangs' when there were also additional nests under the eaves of an open shed.

23. Tachycineta bicolor. - A colony of upwards of 100 pairs were breeding in a forest of dead trees in the Reservoir and eight or ten more nests were seen by us in dead trees along the course of the brook below. We saw two occupied nests in one short tree. Two or three pairs were also breeding in bird houses on poles at the Bangs'.

1900.

June 12-14. 24. Piranga erythronus. - On the day of my arrival (June 11th) Mr. Bangs saw a ♂ Towhee in oak woods near his house. This, if I remember rightly, he told me was only the second that he had ever met with in Plymouth County; but on the 14th we heard two males singing ⁱⁿ about a mile to the westward of Warham village, the other a mile or two further on in the same direction. It is singular that they do not occur more commonly for the extensive oak woods here admirably suited to their requirements.

25. Cardinalis purpureus. - Apparently much less numerous than I found it in 1894. At best on the present occasion I found only one bird at the Reservoir & perhaps two more in the village.

26. Spirus hateri. - Common but not numerous.

27. Poëetes gramineus. - Only one bird noted. In 1894 they were abundant all over the open country as well as among thinly-growing pitch pines on burnt lands.

[Passerculus savanna. - Mr. Bangs finds a few pairs breeding near the shores of the bay not far from his place. I did not meet with the species either this year or in 1894.]

28. Sporilla bicolor. - Very common not only about houses & villages but in open pitch pine woods on burnt lands.

[" pusilla. - Met with I think in 1894. Not seen this year.]

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

- June 12-14 29. Melospiza fasciata. - Very common especially near the villages and along the margins of brush-grown brooks.
30. [Melospiza georgiana. - I heard this Sparrow singing along the Long Brook in 1898 & Mr. Bangs has since found its nest & eggs there. He did not see it this season.]
31. Pipilo erythrophthalmus. - Abundant everywhere in dry, scrubby woods especially among bear oaks & in oak hardwoods. Less numerous here than in Hingham or Martha's Vineyard, however.
32. Agelaius phoeniceus. - Found breeding in small numbers about all the fresh water ponds & larger brooks.
- [Sturnella magna. - Mr. Bangs finds this species breeding near the shore at the head of Buzzards Bay but nowhere inland although there are extensive mowing fields which should attract it.]
33. Icterus galbula. - He saw or heard Orioles in clusters feeding the winged fruits in Hingham & East Hingham, Mr. Bangs thinks that about two or three pairs breed regularly in each of these villages.
34. Corvus americanus. - Less numerous than near Cambridge.

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14 35. Cyanocitta cristata. - very common throughout the woods.
(No 12.)

36. Tyrannus tyrannus. - Mr. Bangs considers King Birds scarce this season but to me they seemed very numerous - certainly much more so than they have been at Concord the past winter. They occur throughout the thin woods on the farm lands as well as in orchards near farm houses.

[Myioarchus cinerascens. - Mr. Bangs took me to two different orchards a mile or two west of Wareham where he has found a pair of these Flycatchers in former breeding houses but the birds were apparently absent this year.]

37. Contopus borealis. - Present in about the same numbers as in 1894. It is an easy matter to find four or five pairs during a drive of 20 or 30 miles in any direction from Wareham. Indeed they are quite as numerous in this region as in any part of northern New England. Their numbers do not vary appreciably in different years. Certain pairs return year after year to the same localities to breed. Their favorite haunts are isolated groves or clusters of eastern tall pitch pines on high ground usually not far from a pond or stream for they seem to require the near presence of water. Several pairs resorted to wooded islands in the larger ponds. The birds that we saw this season were for the most part silent & showed little interest in one another. Mr. Bangs thinks they were not breeding. Usually their eggs are laid by June 19 but the season is two weeks late as regards migration this year.

Near Warham, Mass.

1900.

- June 12. 14 38. Contopus virens. - Very common especially in the open
(11613) groves of pitch pines which are scattered throughout
the forest lands.
39. Euphonia virens. - One heard in an apple orchard
near Warham village on the 14th. In 1894 they were
not uncommon & I took a nest & eggs in pitch pine
woods near the Reservoir.
40. Trochilus colubus. - One in the Bangs' flower garden on
the morning of the 14th.
41. Chaetura pelagica. - Just as numerous as in the
spring about Cohasset.
42. Anthracoceros viridis. - Abundant. Heard their notes
singing all over near the Bangs' house on the evening
of the 11th. They sang all night on this & the following
two nights but on the night of the 14th we did not
hear one perhaps because the weather was cloudy & cool.
43. Chalcidops pictus. - Very numerous in June 1894 when
we started two females from their eggs. This year we
harassed the house grounds but noted only a single
bird which was heard preying near the Reservoir on the 12th.
- [Dryobates velox. - Mr. Bangs sees this species frequently
in summer & has found one nest with young near
Warham. I did not meet with it either in 1894 or this year.
44. Dryobates p. nuchalis. - Two or three met with.

near Warham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14. 45. Colaptes auratus. - Common everywhere. Found ~~two~~
(no 14) nests which the birds were seen to enter in stubs in
the Reservoir.

46. Ceryle alcyon. - One seen at the Reservoir where
Mr. Bangs found a nest with young a few years since.

47. Coccyzus erythrophthalmus. - Common.

[" americanus. - Mr. Bangs has found this
species on several occasions in the breeding season
but he regards it as much less common than the
House-Bird.]

[Megascops asio. - A brood of young was with me by
Mr. Bangs a few years ago, as he was fishing a trout
stream near Warham.]

[Bubo virginianus. - Mr. Bangs says that this Owl
still occurs in the Warham region but that its
members are steadily diminishing.]

[Nyctale acadica. - Visited the old white pine swamp
where Mr. Bangs took the lot of 7 eggs of this Owl several
years ago. The stub, a large, dry trunk of a white pine,
is still standing - or rather leaning out over the clear, rapid
trout stream which flows past its base. The swamp is
buried in the heart of extensive woods remote from civilization
and with its fine old trees decayed in place is very
wild & beautiful looking piece of forest. I saw a fresh
other track near the nesting tree to which the Owls have been returned.]

Near Waverham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14. 48. Pandion carolinensis. - Heard one whistling in woods near
(No 157) a pond west of Waverham.

49. Haliaeetus leucorhynchus. - On June 12th we had 2½
Eagles in sight one over looking over a pond on the shore
bordering a small muddy pond two or three miles E. of
Waverham. The following day we saw them near, two of
them at White Head Pond. Two of the total nine
were adult birds. These Eagles visit the Waverham ponds
at this season to feed on Alunifera which are still
running up the brooks in fair numbers (a part of which
I had several widows during this visit). Mr. Bump
doubts if Eagles now breed anywhere near the Cape but
he has been told by one of the old gunners of Waverham
that a nest existed many years ago not far from that
town. He found a nest in the white pine swamp this
season which looked fresh and which was as large as
any Eagle's nest that I have ever seen. But the ground
beneath showed us traces of excrement, feathers or other "signs"
and the only bird of prey seen near it was a Red-tailed Hawk.
This nest was in an enormous, living white pine about 50 ft.
above the ground near the top of the tree.

[Circus hudsonius. - Up to within a few years Marsh Hawks
have been common summer residents of the Waverham region
according to Mr. Bump but he has seen none there
this season.]

[Accipiter cooperii. Mr. Bump has found several nests
of this Hawk & considers it a common breeder. It has
killed all his Pigeons & he has seen the remains of many
mice & small birds in its nests.]

Near Warrenton, Mead.

1900.

June 12-14. 50. Buteo borealis. - This is the common Breeding Buteo of the region. Mr. Bangs has found its nest abundantly. I saw two or three birds during my stay.

51. Bonasa umbellus. - According to Mr. Bangs the Partridge although less numerous than formerly (owing to the very general transformation of its favorite haunts the large, wooded or brushy tracts into cranberry bogs) is still common. He saw only one bird during my stay - a hen accompanied by several chicks in a wood road near E. Warrenton. The old bird came running about us passing & repassing close to the wheels of our wagon making the usual "puff-puff" - then whining & "chattering up" her feathers. She was deep reddish-brown in general coloring & her tail appeared to be gray or grayish.

52. Colinus virginianus. - He had five different males whistling coo-coo while driving through the scrubby woods E. of Warrenton on the 12th. - shot a single bird near the Bangs house on the 14th. Mr. Bangs tells me they were very numerous in the autumn of 1898 but that most of them perished during the following severe winter.

Zenaidura macroura. - Mr. Bangs says that this species was common & generally distributed about Warrenton a few years ago but that it has since disappeared. He has not seen one this season.

Ring-necked
53. ~~Megascops~~ Phasianus. - A few of these Pheasants were liberated near the Bangs' place two or three years

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

Ring-necked
June 12. 14 (~~Phasianus~~ Phasianus) eggs by Messrs. Minot & Stockton.

(No 17)

They have increased rapidly and over ten or fifteen square miles of country lying at the head of Buzzards Bay are now common. He was from one to three daily during my visit in the morning fields & meadows on the way to the village & every morning & evening a good crowd at intervals of three or four minutes in the fields near the house. When feeding out in the fields the cock bird is a conspicuous object even in eastern tall grass for his ~~ball-shaped~~ plumage catches & reflects the rays of the sun like burnished copper. & when his attention is attracted by a passing team he is sure to show himself up & watch it. If approached by a man on foot he retreats & lies down where it is not easy to discern him in the grass. Most of the birds which I stalked lay quite motionless until I was within ten or fifteen feet. They rose strongly springing nearly straight upward to a height of 20 feet or more & then flew off to a distance moving their wings rapidly & steadily for the first 100 yards, after that alternately plucking & flapping. I saw only one alight again which he did in an open meadow after having one down woods & then turning back in a half circle. Bangs songs these Phasians live in the open fields but occasionally alight in woods when flushed, the crow of the cock is broken & husky & much like that of a quail scoter. A ♀ with her young was down on the Bangs plain just before my advent.

near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14. 54. Ardea virescens. - One heard at the Beacon on June 12. Mr. Bangs has found several nests in wooded marsh islands near the head of Buzzards Bay.

~~For~~ Nycticorax nycticorax. - The proprietor of a truck pond near Wareham told me that he killed one fifty "ducks" near his pond last year but none have been seen there this.]

[Philohela minor. - Mr. Bangs showed me a pair of swampy rough woods near Wareham where he has often found Woodcock in July - where he thinks it breeds - a pair or two very well bred].

55. Actitis macularia. - A pair with young on a lonely flat Haven with thin shells & over the bottom of a large mud pond.

56. Griff. Sp. 1800. - On June 12 we started three birds (which I think were all dead) in plain brown plumage) from a long narrow pond formed by damming a brook to supply water to a cranberry bog below. There were numbers of large dead sticks in this pond. Some ten or twelve years ago a Wood Duck nested in a curious tower attached to a mill near Wareham & in the very middle of a collection of scattered houses. The nest was rotted by a Portuguese negro, J. Russell Reed saw the bird enter it & has some notes regarding it. I took a photograph of the tower on June 12.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill
Farm.

1900.

June 16

Morning clear, afternoon cloudy; rather cool with light N. wind.

Left Concord by 8.34 A.M. train, crossing the river at West Bedford, spending the remainder of the forenoon at Balls Hill, driving to the farm after dinner and walking back through the woods by way of Poplar Ridge, the Spring and Davis's Swamp in the late afternoon, strolling to Benson's landing and Pine Park after supper.

At Balls Hill I heard the usual birds in about the usual numbers - Robins, Veeries, Crows, Doves, Redstarts, a Grosbeak, Chestnut-sided Warblers, Song & Swamp Sparrows, a Wood Pewee, King birds, Red winged.

Birds noted
at
Balls Hill

A Wood Thrush was in full song during the oaks just behind the cabin at 5 P.M. and two hours later I heard what was doubtless the same bird at Benson's landing. On this second occasion I saw the bird perched on a branch of a large oak at least 40 feet above the ground. Every time he sang he opened his wings and beat them with a rapid, quivering motion closing them again at the end of each bar. He was a fine singer with a strong, clear voice. I have never found a Wood Thrush at Balls Hill before or since during migration.

Wood
Thrush
singing at
the cabin

There were fair or fine Veeries singing in the immediate neighborhood of Balls Hill including the Blackmore glen & Swamp.

Two Nuthatches were pumping at Benson, one directly opposite the cabin, the other in the south corner of Great meadow.

Nuthatches

A Grass Finch was singing in Pine Park

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 16
(No 2.)

at intervals through the day.

At the Baxter farm I inspected the Indigo Birds nest in the raspberry bushes near the barn & found that it contained one young bird about 4 days old & one or two infertile eggs.

Nest of
Indigo Bird
at Farm

All the eggs had hatched since my last visit in the Nashville Warblers nest in the Spring just behind Rock's Hill and the five young, several days old & already showing pin feathers, filled the nest to overflowing.

Nest of
Nashville W.
at Ball's H.

At Pulpit Rock two Blackburnian Warblers were singing and two Partridges drumming, one on the wall when the broad pines grow, the other near the western entrance to brick field. I heard another cock Partridge drumming in the usual place in Davis's Swamp.

Blackburnian
Warblers

Partridges

As I was starting westward on the south side of Pulpit Rock watching a Gray Squirrel I saw a Fox coming down the middle of the run. Trotting slowly in a nearly straight line he had nearly passed me at a distance of about 25 yards when I made a low squeaking sound. He instantly turned towards me & stopped raising his head & looking intently. I squeaked again when he advanced a yard or two & again stopped to listen. This was repeated until he had come to within about ten feet of me. Even then he did not appear to be very although there was nothing between us taller than a Pyrola plant. But his suspicions were evidently aroused and after sniffing the air once or twice he drew back & making a half circle around me got my waist when he at once started off at a great pace taking long, light bounds & quickly disappearing among

"Squeaking
up" a
fox.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 16
(No 3)

some dense young pines. As he came down the sun
before I attracted his attention he trotted, as I have already
said; not as a dog trots but much more lightly yet
in a tired, bottom-serving way more nearly like those
of a Coyote. When approaching me after I had begun squealing
his gait was a girch, nervous, yet singularly ~~steady~~ &
noiseless work, ~~the~~ head & tail curved low & in line
with the body, the steps carefully regulated to avoid
dry twigs or clusters of dead leaves. When he made the
final halt and I gave my last squeak his eyes rolled
astutely from side to side looking eagerly for some
movement on the part of the supposed mouse and I
could see the muscles swell in his ears for a moment as
he prepared to spring. I could not help feeling a
bit nervous at this moment for he was a big fellow
and as gaunt & grim looking as a starved wolf.
His color was faded and yellowish white his hair
had fallen or worn off in places giving his coat a
ragged, mangy appearance. But his worst feature
was his close-set, deeply-sunken, shifty eyes which seemed
to me to express a mixture of hard shrewdness, mischievous
cruelty and deep blood-guiltiness. They fairly made
me shudder as they peered intently at me from
a short distance yet, strange to say, they did
not ever seem to meet mine. Indeed their owner
appeared all the while to be looking past or through
rather than at me. I must confess to a feeling
of deep relief when he finally turned & fled.
Although there was not, of course, the slightest
danger of his attacking me. I suppose he mistook
me for the stump of a tree

"Squealing up"
a Fox at
Puffin Bluff

Concord, Mass.

1906

June 16
(no 4)

The Skunk has been enjoying their annual feast of Turtle's eggs and on a large scale even than usual. To judge by the number of Skunks I found to-day in the sandy fields & openings near Balls Hill. I had supposed that the Skunk discovers the admirably concealed nest of the Turtle by his sense of smell but something that I observed this afternoon appears to cast doubt on this theory. When I was last at Balls Hill (on June 3) I set out five plants of the orange milkweed in the field near the wood shed. Scattering them about in different places and with a trowel digging deep but narrow holes for the long, carrot-like roots. On visiting them to-day I found that all but one had been found and dug up by the Skunk. Neither the plants nor their roots had been eaten or even separated from the loose earth that had been thrown out with them.

In each case the Skunk had gone to the very bottom of the excavation which I had previously made and in no instance had he dug other holes in the immediate vicinity. How could he have discovered these small, isolated plants scattered about inside a tangle of weeds & grass and having found them why did he go to the trouble of digging them up? It seems reasonably certain that in some way he detected that the ground had been recently disturbed (although I had packed it back closely about the plants & had added a light mulch of dry grass to protect their roots from the sun) & that he suspected a Turtle's nest was concealed there. If this was so he must have either compared my scent with that of a Turtle or not have used his sense of smell at all.

Two Red-shouldered Hawks were soaring & descending over Holden's Hill & Pine Pond this afternoon.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

Jan 17

Clear and rather warm.

Left the cabin at 8 a.m. and drove to Concord where I met C., E. R. S., and Mr. Brewster at the "Continental". Starting shortly after 9 a.m. we drove up the Estabrook road to the Lime Kiln where we tied the horse & walked to the Boston Field.

Estabrook
Road.

We then continued on to the end of the road & returned by way of Bottoms Pond. Saw & heard many common birds as well as our Green-winged warbler.

In the afternoon we visited Fairyland, Walden, Hutton's Bridge, the cold spring swamp and Clam Pond Hill. I heard a Great Crested Flycatcher in the Fairyland woods & another on the deep hollow near Mr. Hutton's place on Pond Street Hill as I was driving back to Boston Hill on evening.

Fairyland &
Walden.
Crested
Flycatcher

Mr. Emerson Howard is a large patch of birch on the crest of the pine clad hill above the pond in Fairyland.

Waltham, Mass.

1900.

June 26

Clear with light S. W. wind, - a beautiful June day.

Visited Sherman's (= Hardy's = Mead's) Pond, Waltham, Sherman's Pond.
This forenoon in company with Hobbs & George Deane
and O. A. Bothrop, going by electric cars via Woburn
& Northam and returning by way of Lexington & Arlington.
The object of our trip was to see, photograph and
take the nest of a Great Crested Flycatcher which
Bothrop found building nearly two weeks ago and
which, with his usual generosity, he has insisted on
placing in my collection.

This nest was at the extreme western end of the
old orchard between the Pond & Poplar Road & within
30 yards of the corner in the hollow branch of an
apple tree. The entrance hole was in the end of the branch
about 9 feet above the ground and descended about a foot
to the nest, which was set upon the edge of the
ground. The total length of the branch was about 7 feet.
I took several photographs of the tree before the nest
was disturbed and two of them showed how the ♀
bird perched on a dead twig just below the hole.

Nest of
Myiarchus

She was sitting when we reached the place at about 10 a.m.
Bothrop scratched the bark at the base of the branch
where she at once emerged from the hole & flew into
a wild cherry tree not far off. She soon presently appeared
but neither bird made any sound until we had
spent fully twenty minutes close to the nest. One of
them then called two or three times. They were
both unusually tame as well as silent. The ♀
returned to the apple tree at the end of the first
ten minutes and after perching just below the hole

Waltham, Mass.

1900

June 26
(No 2.)

and having her picture taken as already mentioned she
quietly entered the nest which we were standing within
twenty or forty feet of it. After being started from it a
second time she flitted from tree to tree around us
frequently alighting on the extremity of some low branch
with twenty feet or less showing, usually rather than
above or on a level and maintaining absolute silence. After the
nest branch had been found off & the nest & eggs taken
she came into the tree & inspected the remaining part
of the stub which we were sitting on the grass nearly
under it. The eggs were five in number, apparently
nearly fresh and uniformly beautiful.

On watching these *Tlycolutes* I noticed, as I have
frequently done before, that their motions while perched
are ~~more~~ much more deliberate than those of
any of the other members of the *Tyrannidae* which
occur in New England. They have a way of alighting
among thickly-growing leaves and peering into them
in much the same manner as a Wren, rolling the head
slowly from side to side.

After taking the *Tlycolutes* nest we tramped about
through the woods on the north end of the pond
visiting the point where I used to have a shooting
stand one thirty years ago. The place has been greatly
changed by the removal of all the small trees &
underbrush & is apparently now much used as a
pic-nic ground. We heard a number of common birds
including a Pine Warbler, Red start, Veery, two Yellow-throated
Vireos, Cat-birds, a Lark etc. Robins were singing
in a meadow outside the woods.

Nest of
Myiarchus

Sherman's
Park

Concord, Mass.

Balls' Hill

1900.

June 27

Clear & hot with strong S. W. wind and
thunder rumbling in the distance in P. M.

Gilbert & I went to Concord by the
early morning train. I spent most of the forenoon
in the woods on the W. Hill farm there. There were
a good many birds singing there - Redstarts, Chestnut-
sided Warblers, Cat birds, Red-eyed Vireos, Wrens, etc.
A Quail was whistling in the distance & Pat told
me that he had found its nest with 17 eggs, in
his orchard, last week. Pat also says that he
saw on a brood of young Pouter-ducks on the
W. Hill farm there a few days ago. I started an
old cock bird there this forenoon.

Quail's nest,
17 eggs

Another piece of interesting news is that
a Deer has been seen twice lately by Pat, once
in the young hemlock grove on Pine Ridge, again
at Davis's Hill. Last Sunday. I found its tracks
in the sandy cart road on Pine Ridge this
afternoon. They looked like those of a three year
old buck. The animal had walked steadily
nearly the entire length of the road where it
passes over the crest of the ridge.

A Deer
at Balls'
Davis's Hill

It was as hot as a furnace in the woods
this afternoon but birds were singing quite freely
nevertheless. I heard only the common kinds,
Chestnut-sided, Pine & Black-throated Green Warblers,
Redstarts, Wilson's Thrushes, a Song Sparrow, a
Grass Finch (in Pine Park), a Towhee, a Wood Pewee
and at least four or five Red-eyes.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

June 27
(No 2)

As I was passing through a wood road behind Ball's Hill I heard a Partridge making the puffing-like whining noise which the old hen bird utters when suspicious about her young. A little further on I heard the young calling on all sides of me in the dense alder thickets and presently one about as large as a Pigeon walked slowly & deliberately across the path. I cannot imagine what could have disturbed & scattered them as none of my men had been that way.

Partridge
with young

In a note book which I used here last year I find a leaf which evidently has never been copied & on which occurs the following inscription in pencil, doubtless made in the field:

"Young Partridges scattered calling freely zee-zee-c
Old bird replies with a low cree-cree-cree."

On the same leaf is the following transcript of the song of Coccyzus americanus: "toc-toc-toc-toc-toc-toc (all these notes hard, woody & on the same key) kaw, kaw, kaw. The notes of another individual sounded more like tet-tet-tet-tet-tet-tet tau, tau, tau"

Notes of
Yellow-bill
Cuckoo.

I crossed the river shortly before sunset and rambled about for upwards of an hour over Arnold's pasture. Birds were singing on every side. There were a Robin, a Veery, a Thrasher with a glorious voice & an unusually varied repertoire, a Towhee (in full song), a Wood Pewee, an Oven bird, a Redstart, a Chestnut-sided Warbler, a Maryland Yellow-throat, a Black & White Creeper, a Song Sparrow & in the distance, 2 or 3 loud whistling Red-whiskers.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 27

(no 3)

My walk finally extended itself across the railroad ^{Quail's nest} and up through the lane to Arnold's house where I was shown the Quail's nest. It was just over the wall from the main road, ~~in the side of a low mound close to an old stump, surrounded by~~ ^{in the side of a} short & apparently dead grass which afforded it practically no shelter; but the nest was so deeply sunk into the side of the mound that the eggs could not be readily seen from above although they were all visible and very conspicuous when in view in front of the nest a few feet off. Arnold said that the bird was sitting this forenoon but we found her absent this evening. At first glances the nest & its contents looked all right but on closer inspection we were surprised to find that all but three of the eggs had hatched. The shells of all but two had been left in the nest & most of them were arranged in such a way as to look like perfect eggs while several of them had the two halves hinged on one side and fitting closely together all around the edges of the fracture so that it was necessary to pick them up & examine them closely before one could make sure that they were not whole. The shells of ~~three~~ ^{two} of the eggs which were outside the nest lay directly in front of it, those of the other was to one side & a foot or more distant from the entrance. Arnold says that the hen Quail would allow him to approach within about five feet where she would slip off & run away through the grass. He has heard the cock regularly whistling near the nest. I doubt now if this can be the bird we have heard from the cabin. The eggs were crowded together in a very small space.

Launceston, Mass.

1900.

June 28

Forenoon clear and very hot. A thunder storm at noon and another shortly after hours.

Went to Launceston by the forenoon train. & spent the night at Miss Holman's. In the clear morning the village streets heard Vireos giving et parphrasis singing and a little continuous chattering. Two Marion Doves were singing in grassy fields near the house. Broods of young Chickadees were calling everywhere.

In the afternoon we took a short drive passing through woods where mountain laurel was blooming in rich profusion. Among some second-growth oak woods on the crest of a hill a Hermit Thrush was in full song but his voice was comparatively weak & thin.

Hermit
Thrush

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 30

Brilliantly clear and pleasantly cool with strong N. W. wind.

I returned from Lancaster yesterday and Walter Deane joined me at the cabin last evening. We drove to the farm this morning and walked back to Ball's Hill through the woods. The strong cool wind seemed to silence the birds and we saw & heard but few. A Black-burnian near Pulpit Rock being perhaps the most interesting.

On the western edge of Davis's Swamp we saw what I at first took to be a half-grown Fox but a moment later decided must be a Raccoon. It started within 25 yards of us and ran off through the Swamp sometimes moving at a slow gallop, sometimes at a quick gliding trot. It looked black and gray and for an instant showed plainly a Black-ringed tail.

Raccoon

As we were on the way to the West Bedford Station in the afternoon we were shown a Lizard's nest which the young had only just left. It was admirably concealed among ferns, tall, dense weeds which were growing along a stone wall and was within three feet of the foot path which leads from the Station down to the meadows and which we have traversed repeatedly the past month. The nest was made wholly of grass which lined a deep hollow that the bird had apparently scratched in the earth within a few inches of the wall. Save for the fringe of weeds the field was free & under cultivation. The Lizard has watched for the past two or three weeks in a pasture near Hobbs's Camp fully 400 yards from the nest but late in May we often heard him near

Anelson

Lizards' nest

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 30

(No 2)

The spot where the nest was afterwards built. It contained to-day the shells of 13 recently hatched eggs and one egg that had failed to hatch. but it is said that when Mr. Parker found it a few days ago it held 18 eggs. The shells of most of the eggs which had hatched were connected (ie the halves of each were connected) on one side by a strip of amniotic shell which formed a sort of hinge so that the two halves could be easily pressed back in place. I took all the shells and have them now in the collection.

Greenland, N. H.

June 19

As I

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill

1900

July 12

Clear and very warm with violent S.W. wind which brought a heavy shower at evening.

Took the 8.34 A.M. train to Concord. Spent most of the day observing from road at the cabin. The strong wind looked then thru about like birds & especially silenced the birds. Indeed during the day I heard nothing but a Pine Warbler, a Honey and Yellow-throat, two Red-wings and a Red-eyed Vireo. At sunset, just after the Huma had passed and with the heavens now suffused with an exquisite rose-amber light, a Robin, a Song Sparrow and two Swamp Sparrows sang, a very callow, a flock of fully 100 Swallows (mostly House) appeared high in air whirling about in a cluster like a swarm of bees, and two Night Herons, quacking hoarsely came over Ball's Hill from the north and sailed down on set wings towards the middle of Great Meadow. Earlier in the day I saw two Bitterns flying about & occasionally alighting in the meadow opposite the cabin. But says they have been there constantly of late. The attention is probably a mistletoe of young Great Horned or Pileated Frogs which are instead all along the canal when we crossed this forenoon.

A pair of Red-eyed Vireos accompanied by several young were fluttering about near the cabin in the afternoon. The young kept uttering a wing tree, tree, evidently a call for food.

Birds singing

through day

Birds singing

at sunset.

Flight of

Swallows

at evening

Night Herons

Bitterns

Call notes of

young

Red-eyed

vireos

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.
July 13

Brilliantly clear & pleasantly cool with light
W. wind.

Rose at 5.30 and took a walk of about an hour, Early morning
walk.
along the wire path to the back gate, up through the
fields to Benson's pasture and back around the eastern
side of Ball's Hill swamp. The air was deliciously cool
and fresh and every leaf and blade of grass covered
with drops of water which sparkled like diamonds
in the rays of the sun. Altogether it was a rare
morning even for this season.

The birds were singing almost as freely as in early
June. I noted down on the spot all that I saw or
heard during my walk with the following results. Birds singing
in early
morning.

Muscula nigrotoria 2*, Luscin. fuscescens 1*, Galaxoptes
caerulescens 2*, Horreobagrus rufus 2 flying about the
edge of a field, Parus atricapillus heard, Ministrella varia
2*, Dendroica virens 2*, D. pennsylvanica 2* (long
with complete wing), D. virens 2*, Seiurus aurocapillus 3*,
Geothlypis trichas 2*, Setophaga ruticilla 1*, Piranga rubra 2*,
Pooecetes gramineus 1*, Spizella socialis 2 seen, Melospiza
asciata 3*, M. georgiana 2*, Habia ludoviciana 1* (far
over their pasture), Vireo olivaceus 2*, V. flavifrons 1*,
Dolichonyx oryzivorus (small flocks chattering overhead),
Agelaius phoeniceus 3* (12), Luscin. cinerea 1, Icterus galbula
1 ad. & young heard, Corvus americanus 2, Cyanocitta cristata
2, Colaptes auratus 2*, Dryobates p. auduboni 1, Lyranus
tyrannus 1, Contopus maini 2*, Chondestes pelagicus heard,
Colinus virginianus 2* (W. the first shot), Bonasa umbellus
brood of 7 or 8 young 2/3 grown; in all 32 species.
Later in the morning I noted on the West Redford shore

Concord, Mass.

1900.

July 13
(No 2)

an Empidonax minimus, a Sayornis phoebe ♀, and
a number of Pitcairulidon linifrons. At evening I saw
a Northern and a Green Heron and heard a low bird &
some House Wrens. These additions carry the list
up to 39 species.

The Barn Swallows were at Parker's nesting under
the eaves of the barn. Parker put up a chest to
support the nests this spring but in spite of it
a number of nests full of young fell during the
thunder storm of last evening I was told. Parker's
box says there were 17 complete & over five nests
yesterday. This morning there were only four or five
perfect ones but I counted a dozen in which the
birds were sitting although some of them were little
more than narrow, semi-circular platforms from
which the young or eggs had apparently fallen.

Last evening & this Blue & Green Frogs have
been very noisy but the Toads wholly silent.

White water lilies and pickerel weed are in full
bloom all along both edges of the river near
the cabin.

Balls Hill

Barn Swallows

Barn Swallows
nesting on
Parker's barn.

Frogs and
Toads

Water lilies
pickerel weed.

Covered, Mass.

1900.

July 23

Clear and hot with light S. W. wind.

Left Jaffrey at 7 a. m. and reached Covered at 9 a. m.
Peterson met me at the station and drove me to the
farm where three about 8 Towhees were singing within
my hearing at once. I also heard a Maryland Yellow throat
sing a few times & hear a Chipping in the orchard. There
were literally all the birds I noted at the farm.

Birds noted
at Farm.

When I reached Ball's Hill the woods seemed devoid
of bird life but as the heat began to abate in the
late afternoon Swamp Sparrows & Red-wings sang
rather freely. Gilbert tells me that he heard a Robin
& a Red-eyed Vireo singing near the cabin this morning.
At sunset a numerous flock of Swallows collected
on Holden's meadow and swept back and forth, at first
rather high in air, finally low over the trees.
They acted as if they were going to roost in the
willows opposite Paul Island but I did not actually
know them there. There must have been fully 500
birds in the flock, the majority evidently Barn Swallows
with a few Hens & White-bellies.

Birds noted
at Ball's Hill.

Evening flight
Swallows.

Bitterns were flying about all the afternoon. At
evening I heard a solitary Sandpiper calling over the
river.

Bitterns

At 8.30 P. M. a Fox barked many times in succession
across the river.

Fox.

Pat Flannery tells me that Mason Wheeler killed a
large Canada Porcupine last week near Notman's Pond.
There were two cubs but one escaped. The one killed was
hung up in Davis's store for three days & was seen by
many of the Concord people including Herbert Holden.

Canada
Porcupine
killed in
Concord.

1900.

July 24

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

Cloudy at daybreak with light rain falling. The sky cleared soon after sunrise and the day was fine but rather warm with moderate S. to S. W. winds.

At 6 a.m. I took a short walk going as far as Pine Park & returning over the crest of Ball's Hill. At evening I walked to Davis's Hill coming back by way of the meadows where on a sandy flat I found deer tracks which were not over a week old and which apparently ~~belonged~~ were made by the same animal (there was here about a month ago). Found a quantity of cotton grass in Heald's meadow.

Song Sparrows, Swamp Sparrows and Red wings song freely & vigorously in the early morning & again at evening and two heard whistled bob, whin throughout most of the day.

Red-eyed Vireos, a Solitary Vireo (the first I have met with in Concord this year), a Rose-breasted Grosbeak very plentiful, ^{near the cabin} white ⁱⁿ the early forenoon, a Wood Pewee was singing well on Ball's Hill at 6 a. m. and another very fully on Davis's Hill at evening. I heard a Black & white Anger, a Pine Warbler, a Maryland Yellow-Throat each sing once. Robins, Vireos and more of the Woodpeckers seem to have ceased singing altogether.

I saw an Olive bird this forenoon something about on the ground on the hillside near the cabin closely followed by a young bird which she fed at frequent intervals & which appeared to be only a few days from the nest. It was interesting to see how exactly it imitated its parent in all its motions. It kept up a shrill chirping note unlike that of a young Song Sparrow.

Early morning
walk

Deer Tracks
in Holden's
manor.

Birds heard
singing.

Admiral &
Grosbeak singing
Crested flycatcher (a
very cute down)

Oven bird
feels young
on ground

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

August 1

Clear with cool N.W. wind.

I came from Joffrey this morning to spend a few days at Balls Hill. Before going there I drove to Angel's mill where I heard a Yellow Warbler in full song and saw one or two others flitting about in the trees over the brook.

Yellow Warbler
in full song.

At Hildeth's Corner thirty or more Martins were circling about their houses. Capt. Doherty tells me that they have raised a large number of young this season, so many, indeed, "that we all can get inside at night". He thinks that the total number of young & old at present frequenting the two boxes on his place & the box across the street "must be fully 300" but this is probably an exaggeration.

Purple Martin

As I passed the Minnins' a houseful of bees was flying in the elms in front of the house.

At Balls Hill I heard in full song a Solitary bairn, a song-bird and a West-bird named Wren, a Song Sparrow and then a thrush Swamp Sparrow.

Birds singing
near Balls Hill.

Later in the afternoon a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, apparently an adult, sang then or a dozen times at short intervals. Its voice was almost as loud & rich as in the breeding season but the song was much shorter & less varied. When I heard it I afterwards saw two young Grosbeaks.

Grosbeak in
nearly full
song.

A good many Swallows & Doves were coming about at evening and the chink, chink of Robins came from the meadows opposite the cabin.

Birds noticed
at evening.

Red-wings were also flying about in small flocks but I heard none singing. The Loon also seems to have become silent since my last visit.

1900.

August 2

Concord, Massachusetts.

Balls Hill.

Brilliantly clear and deliciously cool with long intervals of dead calm alternating with lighter ones of moderate W. wind.

Spent most of the day in the woods at Balls Hill or across the river near the new Boat House. Packed arrived by the 5.30 P. M. train and on at once started on a walk skirting the Holden meadows to Davis' Hill and returning by way of Pine Ridge & Pine Park.

The evening was calm and beautiful with a few delicate ribbon-like, rose-tinted clouds floating low in the west. The Holden meadow was full of wild flowers.

We saw a swarm of Red-wings - upwards of 100 - crossing the river at Post Island. A Bittern loosed its way up stream. Swallows & Swifts were scattered about wherever one chose to look. The chirp of Robins came from the nearest meadows.

The following birds were heard singing to-day: - Birds heard

Ministrella varia, the warbling vireo, long given their evening song

Scirpus americanus, the teacher long given over to evening

Vireo olivaceus, two birds in noisy full song for an hour after dinner.

Melospiza fasciata, two birds in full song at 4 P. M. another at home.

" Geothlypis, two singing at dusk.

Habia ludoviciana, about 8 singing - were calm for an hour after dinner & at intervals through day, song at times nearly full.

Agelaius phoeniceus, adults 8 in full song at dinner.

Sayornis phoebe, adults singing fairly well in P. M.

Carpodacus mexicanus, an singing fairly & well at dinner.

Colinus virginianus, one song up to 10 o'clock / for an hour after dinner.

A Water Thrush sang the day near the cabin.

Covesd, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

August 3

Clear and cool with strong N. E. wind.

Spent most of the forenoon on the West Bedford House superintending the men who were putting the finishing touches on the new boat house. A Phoebe was hanging about it again to-day doing a little work and then.

Stone boat
house nearly
finished

In the afternoon went into the Swamp behind Ball's Hill to see a quantity of Virginia chain fern which Pondin had found there this morning. It was mixed in with cinnamon fern in most places. Pondin also found it in the Davis's Swamp. *Aspidium simulacrum* occurs plentifully in both these swamps.

We took another walk after supper - to & across the Boxen Meadows which was as dry as an upland field. The grass has been cut on this as well as most of the low meadows by moving machines. The second crop has already started & the meadow was as green as a lawn & very beautiful in the light of the afternoon. Two Song-Bird Marsh Wrens were singing in the sweet fringe of hedge & wild rice along the main canal and troops of Red-wings were coming in to roost. One was to them a Plover or a Green Heron passed over the Great Meadows on its way to its feeding grounds. I saw three Green Herons flying together this forenoon.

Grass on
Great Meadows
cut by
moving ma-
chines
Marsh Wrens
Red-wings
flying to their
roosts.

Besides the Marsh Wren & Phoebe I heard singing to-day a Red-eyed Vireo, a Song Sparrow, two Swamp Sparrows, a Grosbeak, a Red-wing, a Wood Pewee (fully) & a Lark. There was also a Black-bellied Cuckoo coming.

The Grosbeak sang freely & well through the forenoon. On following it up I was surprised to find that it was apparently a female. The head wings, tail & back were plain faded brown; the under parts were streaked. It may have been a young ♂.

Rose b. Grosbeak,
apparently ♀,
singing freely.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

August 4

Brilliantly clear with light N. E. to W. wind. Morning & evening very cool; middle of day rather warm.

Spent the entire day near the cabin or across the river on the new boat house. After supper Purdie & I walked along the river path to Pine Park.

Here I first came out on half past six this morning a pair of big Snapping Turtles were having a desperate fight near the middle of the river. The struggle lasted for minutes or more and the ripples caused by it covered the whole river from shore to shore.

Snapping
Turtles
fighting

At 7 a.m., Pat called us out of the cabin to see three Great Blue Herons which had just alighted on together in the top of a maple on the West Bedford shore. They remained there for nearly ten minutes busily preening their broad wings and holding them extended & motionless after the manner of buzzards or flapping them slowly. They finally took flight and rose high over the meadows where they were joined by a third bird of the same species, all three soaring in circles like Eagles & slowly drifting off to the S. W.

Great Blue
Herons

I saw during the day a ♂ Scarlet Tanager (in full breeding plumage apparently), a family party of four Yellow Warblers, two Bluebirds, a Green Heron & a number of commoner birds.

Scarlet Tanager
in red plumage

I heard during a long-billed Marsh Wren, a Maryland Yellowthroat (flying very low at evening), a Red-eyed Vireo, a Song Sparrow, two Swamp Sparrows, & a Phoebe.

Birds heard
singing.

The Insect across the river whistled both while all day long.

The only Batrachians heard were on the Green Frogs.

The Crickets (Acrida) are in noisy full cry near the cabin.

Frogs.
Fire Crickets.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

August 5

Brilliantly clear morning, clouds gathering in late afternoon.
Light variable winds mostly easterly with long intervals of calm.
Morning & evening cool; middle of day warm.

Purdie and I were out from 7.30 to 11 a.m. spending most of this period in the woods on Holden's Hill. There were lots of small birds there, mostly Warblers and Red-eyed Vireos with a few Chickadees, a Tanager with young, a Downy Woodpecker, two Flickers & some Jays.

Morning
walk

The majority of the Warblers were Black & White Caping and Chestnut-sided but there were at least two Black-throats, one a young in first plumage apparently, the other an old ♀. Probably the Black-throats were local birds although it is possible they had come down from further north.

The Tanager was still in red plumage but it had a patch of yellow feathers on each side of the breast which looked like severely assailed feathers of the autumnal dress. It was anxious about a young bird which was near at hand and flitted close about us calling chup and creating the feathers of the crown into a brown crest. The young Tanager uttered at short, regular intervals a querulous, fluctuating call which at a distance sounded like tee-e, near at hand like cher-ry or tee-er-e and which was very like the hunger call of a young Woodcock (~~Robin~~) only more guttural (or perhaps I should say nasal) in quality. He did not see or hear the mother Tanager at all.

Tanager
with young

Most of the birds just mentioned were collected together in mixed flocks. The Red-eyed Vireos sang freely & well and one of the Chickadees whistled the phoebe many times.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

August 5
(Tue 2)

In the afternoon we road up river to the Thatcher
to get the two fishing camps, in which Purdie & I remained
without saving back in the day. The river has changed
greatly in aspect within the past two or three years owing
to weirs and extension of the ~~beds~~ beds of wild rice (Zizania)
which now fringes its banks almost everywhere below
above this & the lower bridge and at the Hot & Barrett's
Now forms broad and deep beds hundreds of feet in length.
Bobolinks & Red-wings were collected in large numbers in
the larger beds apparently feeding on the grain of the rice. Red-wings
They rose, as we advanced, from both sides of the river
and flew about as in flocks, chinking or cawing in variety.
We heard singing during this trip ^{a Catbird} Black & White Crows, Birds singing
a Yellow Warbler, at least a downy Song Sparrow, an Indigo Bird
and a Red-winged Blackbird. I also heard a Sumner
Yellow-cup in the distance and a Virginia Rail calling
king-rill in a bed of wild rice. Two Scrub-bird and
one Song-bird were singing near the river banks.
A number of Red-tailed Hawks soared across the stream
at the Hot. We saw a Meadow Lark near Hart's landing

Trip up the
River.

Wild Rice

Bobolinks

Red-wings

Birds singing

Va. Rail

Marsh Wren

Red-Tailed
Hawk.

Upland
Plover.

Just before breakfast this morning I walked to Holden's
meadows where I heard the call of the Upland Plover.
The sound was distinct at first but presently came
nearer when I discerned two of the birds flying in
company at a great height, circling over the meadows.
They are the first I have noted in this locality for
many years but then I am not often here in August.
I also heard a Red-shoulder in full song & saw the bird
a fine old male.

Just before 8 o'clock a Scrub Owl was seen
a number of times across the river.

Scrub Owl

Concord, Mass.

1900.

August 5
(No 3)

Hubert Holden, who called at the Cabin this morning, tells me that the Porcupine which Mason Wheeler killed this month (of joints eating under date July 23rd) was in a field of English grass near the edge of Fifty Acre Woods. Wheeler was driving a mowing machine at the time (about 2 o'clock) and seeing the grass violently agitated just ahead of his horse stopped them and alighting found and killed the poor animal which was doing its best to escape. Wheeler told Holden that a farmer in Colchester killed a Porcupine in that town about thirty years ago but that none have been seen since. The story that Wheeler found two together & that one of them escaped is, according to both Holden & Davis, without foundation.

Holden further said that Quail are more numerous about Concord this season than they have been for many years. He has heard them whistling in many places east of the town especially along the Virginia road & about Deer Meadow.

Further notes
on the
Porcupine
killed near
Riverside
Park.

Quail
abundant
this year.

Concord, Mass.

Bell's Hill

1900.

August 6

Clear and oppressively hot with light S. W. wind. A light shower at evening.

Spent the entire day at the cabin where I saw few birds and none of any special interest. At evening walked to the Bennett Woodlot, Bobolinks Red-wings and Swallows were passing almost continuously on their way to roost. I counted seventy Bobolinks in a few minutes and thirty Barn Swallows in one flock.

Evening walk

The only birds heard singing to-day were a Song-Sparrow, a Fox-Groove Wren, two Black & White Crows, a Maryland Yellow-Throat (singing over at evening), a Red-eyed Vireo, a Song Sparrow, a Swamp Sparrow, a Flicker (singing over at evening) and a Quail heard at infrequent intervals in the forenoon.

During my evening walk I saw two Bitterns flying across the meadow one following closely in the wake of the other. One or both could ock-ock-ock at frequent intervals.

Bitterns

The ditch which in dry last autumn crosses the meadow opposite the cabin is a favorite resort for many interesting animals. It is alive with frogs & fish & then without Bitterns, Green Herons, and numerous Snakes chiefly Water Snakes & Milk Snakes which lie at length or loosely coiled on the banks & allow us to brush past them within a foot or two.

Boat canal dug in 1899.

But I find that if we stop the boat to look at them when closely they usually glide or roll off the bank into the water & at once dive beneath the lily-pads. Sandpeeps also frequent the muddy floors along this ditch.

Water Snakes.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill

1900.

August 7

Cloudy with light E. wind and showers at short intervals through the day & with the night wetting deep with the drought-parched earth.

Spent most of the day at or near the cabin superintending the work of the men. In the forenoon went to the woods beyond the Barrett Meadows with Peterson to cut some chestnuts for rain water conductors.

Birds appeared to be scarce. I heard a Great Blue Gr. Bl. Heron Heron and saw a Black Duck flying over the meadows Black Duck and a water Thrush in the thicket in front of the Water Thrush cabin.

The only birds heard singing were two Black & White Birds singing Cuckoos, two Yellowthroats (apparently young - at least their songs were weak & broken), a Red-eyed Vireo, a Song Sparrow, a Wood Pewee (singing the short, broken midsummer note) and a Flicker (flashing several times in succession). It is the first time during the past week as I said we heard whistling.

Last evening at about 8 o'clock a Screech Owl worked for fifteen minutes or more across the river.

Screech Owl

Taking advantage of the rain to-day we burned several large brush piles that have accumulated on the meadows. At evening I was poking among the remains of one of them when, to my surprise, I uncovered a small snake (Storeria dekayi) which was lying directly under a mass of glowing & intensely hot coals. It wriggled off into the grass. I had a good view of it & became convinced that it had been in no way injured.

Burning brush

A De Kay's Snake in embers of fire

Probably it sought the embers for its grateful warmth. Last days a young Rattlesnake ran from under this brush heap when subjected to.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

August 8

Cloudy with occasional light showers. Heavy rain all through last night. Rather sultry with light S.W. wind.

Spent the forenoon near the cabin. In the afternoon walked to Pine Ridge & the Mount Meadows. After supper strolled around behind Ball's Hill.

The woods appeared to contain but few birds. I heard a Towhee calling, Jays screaming and Vireos calling at evening when a number of Robins were also assembling, to roost apparently, in the pines behind Ball's Hill. Across the river, where I went for a short time just after dinner, I saw two Oven birds and heard a Grosbeak. Swallows and Swifts were numerous all day over the meadows. Later in the afternoon I saw two Great Blue Herons flying over the Mount Meadows.

Woodland
birds scarce.

Swallow Swifts
numerous

Gr. B. Herons.

The only birds heard singing were a Song Sparrow, a Flicker & a Lark.

Birds singing

Concord, Mass.

Belted

1900.

August 9

Clear and very warm with light N.W. wind.

Spent most of the forenoon near the cabin and on the
Beane meadow where they were now working on a new
roadway. Birds were silent & apparently scarce.

In the afternoon Gilbert came on up river to
Concord where I took the train for Jaffrey.

At the head of the "Holt" we passed within 25 yards
of a Bittern which was standing erect & motionless on
the bank. The grass had been recently cut & removed
and there was absolutely nothing left that could afford
the bird the least concealment. His neck was stretched up
to its full length, his bill pointing straight upward.
He turned his head from side to side every few seconds
but made no other motion. He kept his large bill
& conspicuous position his coloring matched his general
surroundings so admirably that we nearly passed without
seeing him. After we had got some 200 yards above him
he flew across the river & alighted under some weeds.

Bittern

Just above Red Bridge we saw for a big Cow bird
on the ground in a pasture among some crosses. Whenever
one of the latter animals started on ahead of the rest the
Cow birds would range themselves on each side close to
its forward shoulder and run rapidly on just ahead
of it.

Cow birds

Concord, Mass.

1900.

List of birds met with, chiefly at or near Ball's Mill :-

Aug. 1-9

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <u>Sialia sialis</u> | 32. <u>Cyanospiza cyanea</u> | 63. <u>Anas obsoleta</u> |
| 2. <u>Murela nigricans</u> | 33. <u>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</u> | |
| 3. <u>Trachurus fuscescens</u> | 34. <u>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</u> | |
| 4. <u>Galeoscoptes carolinensis</u> | 35. <u>Melospiza alba</u> | |
| 5. <u>Cistothorus palustris</u> | 36. <u>Quiscalus g. albus</u> | |
| 6. " <u>flavescens</u> | 37. <u>Icterus galbula</u> | |
| 7. <u>Sitta carolinensis</u> | 38. <u>Agelaius phoeniceus</u> | |
| 8. <u>Passer atricapillus</u> | 39. <u>Sturnella magna</u> | |
| 9. <u>Minioptila varia</u> | 40. <u>Corvus americanus</u> | |
| 10. <u>Dumetia carolinensis</u> | 41. <u>Cyanocitta cristata</u> | |
| 11. " <u>pernervia</u> | 42. <u>Chaetura pelagica</u> | |
| 12. " <u>blackburniae</u> (2, Aug. 5 th) | 43. <u>Trochilus alexandri</u> | |
| 13. <u>Sialia arctica</u> | 44. <u>Coryphus erythrophthalmus</u> | |
| 14. " <u>noveboracensis</u> | 45. <u>Caper alpestris</u> | |
| 15. <u>Geothlypis trichas</u> | 46. <u>Tyrannus tyrannus</u> | |
| 16. <u>Setophaga ruticilla</u> | 47. <u>Sagittaria phaeola</u> | |
| 17. <u>Vireo olivaceus</u> | 48. <u>Contopus virens</u> | |
| 18. " <u>flavifrons</u> | 49. <u>Colaptes auratus</u> | |
| 19. " <u>solitarius</u> (B.H. 1 st Aug. 1 st) | 50. <u>Dryobates p. maritimus</u> | |
| 20. " <u>gambelii</u> | 51. <u>Megascops asio</u> | |
| 21. <u>Ampelis cedrorum</u> | 52. <u>Buteo borealis</u> | |
| 22. <u>Progne subis</u> | 53. <u>Bonasa umbellus</u> | |
| 23. <u>Petrochelidon lunifrons</u> | 54. <u>Colinus virginianus</u> | |
| 24. <u>Hirundo erythrogastra</u> | 55. <u>Ardea herodias</u> | |
| 25. <u>Colinus virginianus</u> | 56. " <u>virginianus</u> | |
| 26. <u>Perisoreus canadensis</u> | 57. <u>Botaurus lentiginosus</u> | |
| 27. <u>Sturnella magna</u> | 58. <u>Rallus virginianus</u> | |
| 28. <u>Melospiza melodia</u> | 59. <u>Tyrannus flavipes</u> | |
| 29. " <u>gambelii</u> | 60. <u>Phalaropus lobatus</u> | |
| 30. <u>Sturnella forsteri</u> | 61. <u>Bartramia longicauda</u> | |
| 31. <u>Habia melanocephala</u> | 62. <u>Cathartes aura</u> | |

Concord, Mass.

1900.

August 16
(No 2)

In the afternoon I drove to the farm and
walked back through the woods. At Pulpit Rock where
I spent nearly an hour getting out some plants I saw
a large winged flock of Mockers, which were moving slowly
through the trees making a continuous chirping. Not
having my glass I was unable to identify any of them
except a Crow, a Red-eye and several Chickadees.

Pulpit Rock
woods

Large mixed
flock

In the woods behind Barrows at the western end
of Davis's Swamp I had an interesting and for this
region novel experience with a brood of Partridges. There
were five young nearly full grown and their mother.
I came suddenly upon them at a place where the
ground was heavily shaded by large oaks & pines and
about wholly free from underbrush or lowly vegetation of
any kind. As my surprise was one of them attempted
to fly we did they show much fear of me at first
but merely walked slowly on about of me some 15 yards
in advance cawing & spreading their tails & uttering low
chirping calls. Sometimes they scattered about but most
of the time they kept well together & were then over
I could have killed two or three of them at one shot.

Unusual
behavior of
a brood of
Partridges

I followed them for upwards of 100 yards when they
emerged from the old woods & entered a thicket
of young pines where the ground was smooth &
covered with bright green moss. Here they increased
their pace & I went until I had to turn to keep
them in sight. Finally they entered one & disappeared
without flying. The hen was showing brightly on the
time but the ground & foliage were very wet & perhaps
the birds' feathers were, also. The old hen uttered a little
but did not utter any other sounds.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

August 16

Morning cloudy with heavy showers following an
anxiety in quick succession. The heat, at about noon, a
downpour of unusual violence. Afternoon clear with rather
stuffy air.

Left Jaffrey at 7 a. m. and reached Concord at 9.
Gilbert & Peterson were in at the Station. He drove to the
Hays's Conding where Gilbert had left the bills from
concessions. I paddled it down to Rock's Hill stopping with
an umbrella raised as a marker when the rain came to
heavily for comfort.

At the foot of the Hill I saw a Bittern standing
on the high grassy bank. It discovered me a moment
later and at once started off at a rather rapid but
very clumsy run, tripping over higher obstacles & falling over
or twice. On reaching some bushes which grew along a vine
fence it entered them, as I supposed, to hide but when
I passed them I saw it standing erect & still on the
other side. I paddled in near it when it had signalled
at the same time raising its head & pointing up its bill.
When within six or eight yards I raised my paddle
& the Bittern flew. It was with difficulty & after
going a few yards flapped against the vine fence coming
to the ground but immediately rising again &
flying about 20 yards very slowly & feebly and at
length alighting on the edge of a patch of corn into
which it ran quickly. Its plumage was drabbed &
bespeckled which, I think, accounted for its halting flight.
During the descent of the river I heard two short-billed
marsh hawks in full song. A Song Sparrow, a Swamp
Sparrow and a Cuckoo were long over.
There was a brown thrush at the cabin.

Peculiar
behavior of
a Bittern.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

August 17

Clear with several light dashes of rain & a heavy thunder shower passing to the southwest early in the afternoon. Evening calm & brilliantly clear.

Spent the entire day near the cabin where I saw only a few common birds such as House & Robin, Crows, Red-eyes etc. One of the latter was singing fairly well at dinner. At evening I heard full songs from two different Maryland Yellow-throats.

Birds scarce

Singing.

The evening flight of Bobolinks was something unexpected. Evening I saw fully 200 in one flock and at least 100 were in several smaller flocks. All passed the cabin shortly before sunset looking westward and keeping on one of light towards the middle of the Great Meadows, where I suppose they go to roost in the tall grass. Their musical pink, pink was a pleasant sound suggestion of wilderness meadows. There were a few Red-wings flying with most of the flocks.

Evening flight of Bobolinks

Around the Great Meadows at twilight came a perfect horde of Night hawks. I counted 17 in light at once. They were scattered widely and flying to & from in every direction crossing & recrossing each others lines of flight & evidently feeding. As is the almost invariable rule on this season they were absolutely silent.

Big migration of Night hawks

My walk this evening was first to the Bennett meadows, next to Pine Ridge, & back across Balls Hill Swamp. The meadows were wreathed in heavy fog just before the afterglow faded in the west.

Evening walk.

Last evening a Screech Owl worked across the river. I heard one calling to-night near the cabin.

Screech Owl.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900

August 27

Clear, hot & very sultry with little or no wind.

Left Jaffrey at 7 a. m. & for the last time this summer. Reached Concord at 9 a. m. Met Gilbert at Little's stable. He had driven down "Sybil", the horse I have been using this summer. We kept on to the farm & took their supper.

I spent most of the day near the cabin. Then heard Small birds to be a good many birds about. On the way down from Concord I saw flocks of Robins & Chipping, several Bluebirds & Kingbirds, a pair of 8. Owls & two Phoebe. Near the cabin I saw another Owl also an adult 8. and heard a Red-eye scolding. In the early afternoon a Mourning Dove sang for a half hour in succession giving the short, rising spring notes. There was also a Wood Pewee singing well. At evening as I was walking over Pine Ridge an Owl hid her light in air & uttered its flight song with full vigor. I also heard two Cat birds & two Wilson's Thrushes talking and saw a number of Robins assembling to roost in the pines behind Balls Hill.

Over the windows just before sunset I heard Robins talking but they were much less numerous apparently than during my last visit here. I also saw a flock of a dozen Martins pass, flying scattered, & heard some Swallows. There were no Red wings.

Martins
migrating?

Concord, Mass

1900.

August 28

Forenoon cloudy & calm; afternoon clear with light S. wind.
Cooler than yesterday but sultry.

Spent the entire day mousing the work on the new cabin. A Black & White Crow & a Wood Pewee were the only birds heard singing. There was a Water Thrush near the cabin and a Kingfisher rattling over the river. At sunset a few Bobolinks passed flying up river. Gilbert found the skeleton of a Panther that had evidently been killed by a Fox in the woods behind Back's Hill.

Chestnut
Cabin building

Kingfisher

During my last visit to the cabin (August 16-17) ^{Common} Frogs were still croaking. I hear no Bats now. At evening & through the entire night we have a grand chorus of Tree Toads almost as full as that at Cambridge at this season.

Frogs

Tree Toads

" 29

Forenoon cloudy & sultry with a short but brisk shower. Afternoon sunny & warm.

Visited the farm in the forenoon and set out a number of plants on Pulpit Rock. Heard a few Robins chirping in the woods but failed to identify any of them. In Benson's pasture just below the barn a Pine Warbler was singing lustily (for some mysterious reason this spite the attempts for from the woods is devoted to by Pine Warblers at all seasons while they are here). There were also cascades of Bluebirds & Chiffchaffs in this pasture.

Returned to Cambridge by electric car in P.M. As I was crossing a field near the W. Bedford Station I flushed a solitary Quail from a bed of tall weeds.

Jaffrey, New Hampshire

1900.

July & Aug

I went to Jaffrey on July 2nd and remained there most of the time until August 27th visiting Concord, Mass., however, on several occasions on or on (August 1-9) running away eight days.

At Jaffrey I stayed at the Skettissh's, a large humming boarding house very pleasantly situated with a fine view of Monadnock and attractive woods and fields close at hand. The woods were much like those at Peterboro but beeches and balsams were much more numerous, especially the former which often made up the principal part of the tree growth.

The drives were particularly attractive with long stretches of smooth, hard & comparatively level road heavily shaded by fine old trees and bordered by belts of luxuriant ferns or thickets of brooms.

A succession of slight illnesses and several returns of my chronic lameness prevented me from working much but with Walter Deane I did a good deal. A copy of the list of birds which we made will be inserted after these more general observations. It contains pretty much all of interest that resulted from our combined observations and shows how nearly the bird fauna approximates to that of the Peterboro region as represented by the lists in my journal for 1898 and 1899.

Aside from the brief & condensed statements contained in the field list I made a few notes which serve as a record of the birds which we have found here this season but did not detect in Peterboro in 1898 or 1899. They are as follows: Wilsonia canadensis one fairly, Dendroica cerulea, several; Ammodramus, several; Contopus virens, common, Arremonops, common; Contopus virens, common, Arremonops, common;

Jaffrey, New Hampshire.

1900.

July & August
(no 2)

Sphyrapicus varius, one (W. Deane); Buteo lineatus, a pair with
young; Lanius l. migrans, one seen by Mr. & Mrs. Emerson near their
house in August.

Turdus pallasi. - Hermits have been very numerous here this
season. At least three and I think four different
birds sang within hearing of our house through July and
I often heard as many as six or seven during a chain
of a few miles. Ordinarily they sang oftener & more
freely in the early morning and late evening but during
the latter part of July one of the birds near the house
sang almost continuously through the entire day, even when
the weather was clear & warm but usually only when it
was cloudy. At evening after finishing singing they
regularly called to one another from all parts of the
woods keeping it up for several minutes and giving the
chuck, the night call (used in migration) and the fluting
cry in succession.

The singing period came to an end rather abruptly and
very completely & generally early in August. After this
although we heard the birds occasionally we did not on
a single occasion I believe hear one of them utter
a note of any kind.

Vireo olivaceus. - A Red-eye which sang habitually in our
apple orchard near the house interpolated at short intervals
among the normal notes of its song a perfect imitation
of the "three deep" cry of Geothlypis trichas as well as, less
frequently, a fairly good reproduction of the Bluebird's
whistle. Abbott Thayer tells me that there are ordinarily
five or six Red eyes on Merrimack which imitate Geothlypis trichas.

Jaffrey, N. H.

1900

July 1-31

List of birds observed in Jaffrey in July, by William Brewster and Walter Deane. All birds observed with a few exceptions were at altitudes varying from 1000 to 1200 feet elevation. A few observed near the Mountain House on Mt. Monadnock, feet elevation, are so recorded.

1 = in flight; * = in full song; (X) in weak song; O with number inside = in a flock:—

Ardea virescens 10^t

Bonasa umbellus 13^{ad} + 10^{yr}.

Buteo lineatus 2' 7' 10* 26* 27* 30*

. latissimus 7'

Coccyzus erythrophthalmus 6* 12^{seen} 22* 24* 29* 31*

Ceryle alcyon 10' 18'

Dryobates villosus 3' 28^{calling}

" p. medianus 3' 9' 10⁵ 23⁵

Sphyrapicus varius 9^{♀ ad.}

Geophloeus pileatus 5^{ad} 8^{ad} 9^{ad} 26^{ad} 30^{ad} first 4 birds seen at Mountain House by W.B.

Colaptes a. luteus 6* 8' 9' 11' 12' 20* 22* 26' 30*

Antrostomus vociferus 2* 6* 7* 8* 9* 10* 12* 15* 17* 18* 19* 20*

Chordeiles virginianus 5* 6* 7' 9' 13* 15* 23* 24' 29*

Trochilus colubris 13' 23' 30'

Chaetura pelagica 2 3 4 5 6⁶ 7⁶ 8⁶ 9⁶ 10¹² 11¹⁰ 12⁵ 13⁵ 14⁵ 15¹² 16¹⁰ 17¹⁰
18¹² 19⁶ 20¹² 21¹⁴ 22 23 24⁶ 25⁶ 26⁵ 27* 28⁶ 29⁵ 30⁶ 31*

Tyrannus tyrannus 6² 7' 8³ 9² 10⁵ 11² 12³ 13⁴ 14³ 15³ 16³ 17⁹ 18³ 19³ 20⁷ 21³
22 23⁵ 24³ 25² 26² 27⁴ 28⁵ 29³ 30⁶

Sayornis phoebe 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 7* 8* 9' 10* 12* 13' 14' 15' 16* 17' 20' 24' 28^{23. v im}

Contopus virens 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 7* 13* 15* 17* 18* 19* 22* 26* 27* 28* ^{full spring song}

Empidonax minimus 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 7* ^{full song} 9³ 10* 11* 12* 13' 20' 22'
23' 27' 31²

Jaffrey, N.H.

1900

July 1-31

(2)

Cyanocitta cristata 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 13[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂]

20[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Cornus americana 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂]

Dolichonyx oryzivorus 6 8+5♀♀ 10 14[♂] 15[♂]+1♀ 17 2+2♀♀ 18 29'

Agelaius phoeniceus 10[♂]

Carpodacus purpureus 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 10[♂] 4♀♀

Passer domesticus 5[♂] 10[♂] 13[♂] 17[♂] 20[♂] 23[♂] 25[♂]

Astragalinus tristis 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 14[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂]

19[♂] 20[♂] 21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Poocetes gramineus 5[♂] 8[♂] 10[♂] 19[♂] 27[♂] 30[♂]

Ammodramus s. savanna 27[♂] ^{Dr. E. Emmons} ridge of Monadnock, W.B.

Zonotrichia albicollis 2[♂] 18[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] ^{W.D. saw 1 ♂ outside between} ^{Heath's} ^{Jaffrey & Dr. Jaffrey.}

Spizella socialis 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 14[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂]

19[♂] 20[♂] 21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Spizella pusilla 3[♂] 8[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 19[♂] 20[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 25[♂] 28[♂]

Junco hyemalis 30[♂] ^{Two Monadnock peaks} ^{above the road, W.B.}

Melospiza fasciata 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂]

19[♂] 20[♂] 21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Pipilo erythrophthalmus 8[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 13[♂] 17[♂] 19[♂] 20[♂] 22[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] ^{Int. House on} ^{Monadnock, W.B.}

Zamelodia ludoviciana 13 ^{W.D. saw nest near Dr. H. H. Roberts,} ^{Albion, June saw the pair. The eggs were ruined.} 22[♂] 29[♂] ^{brood of young} ^{near Shattuck's.}

Cyanospiza cyanea 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 14[♂] 15[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂]

20[♂] 21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂]

Piranga erythromelas 3[♂] 6[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 13[♂] 15[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂] 27[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] ^{Int. House,} ^{Monadnock, W.B.}

Petrochelidon lunifrons 6[♂] 8[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 17[♂] 21[♂] 25[♂] 29[♂]

Chelidon erythrogaster 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 14[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂]

20[♂] 21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Tachycineta bicolor 17[♂] ^{Will by} ^{Tram Hall} 20[♂] ^{slat. air}

Empidonax cedrorum 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 9[♂] 13[♂] 18[♂] 20[♂] 23[♂] 27[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] ^{Int. House,} ^{Monadnock, W.B.}

Vireo olivaceus 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 14[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂] 20[♂]

21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Vireo solitarius 9[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Jaffrey, N.H.

1900

July 1-31 Mniotilta varia 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 28' 29'

(3) Helminthophila rubicapilla 6* 10* 11*

Comprothlypis americana usneae 19*

Dendroica caerulescens 3* 7* 11* 19'

" coronata 5* 6* 7* 8* 9* ^{seen} 11' 12* 16* 17* 18* 19* 20*
21* 22* 25* 26* 28*

" maculosa 9* 10* 18* 30* ^{Inc. House, Monadnock, W.B.}

" pennsylvanica 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 8* 10* 11* 13*

" blackburniae 2* 3* 4* 6* 7* 8* 9* 10* 19'

" viridis 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 7* 8* 9* 10* 11* 12* 13* 14* 15* 16*
18* 19* 20* 21* 22* 23* 24* 26* 27* 28* 30*

Seiurus eurocapillus 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 7* 8* 9* 10* 11* 12* 13* 17* 18* 19*
20* 21* 22*

Geothlypis trichas 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 7* 8* 9* 10* 11* 12* 13* 14* 15* 17*
19* 20* 22* 29*

Melospiza canadensis 7* [?] _{W.B.} 19 ^{♂ ad.} _{W.B.}

Setophaga ruticilla 6* 14*

Galeoscoptes carolinensis 2* 6* 7* 8* 9* 10* 13* 14* 15* 19*
20* 22* 24* 27* 28* 29*

Harporhynchus rufus 8' 29'

Sitta carolinensis 2* 3* 6* 9* 12* 14* 15* 16* 18* 19* 21* 22* 24*
26* 28*

" canadensis 2* 3* 6* 10* 18' 19'

Parus atricapillus 2* 3* 6* 7* 9* 10* 11* 12* 13* 15* 18* 22* 31* * = phoebe note.

Regulus satrapa 3* 10* 27' 31*

Turdus mustelinus 2* 6* 9* 10*

" ustulatus swainsonii 30* ^{behind barn at Inc. House, Inc. Monadnock,}
_{2-3 Inc. W.B.}

" fuscescens 2* 6* 7* ⁴ _{canis} 9* 10* 13* 19* 20*

" a. pallasii 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 7* 8* 9* 10* 11* 12* 13* 15* 16* 17* 18*

19* ^{4 at one time} _{Shattuck's house, W. House} 20* 21* 22* 23* 24* 25* 26* 27* 28* 29*

30* _(2 = Shattuck's) 31*

Gaffrey, N.H.

1900

July 1-31

(4)

Merula migratoria 2 3 4 5 6² 7³ 8² 9¹ 10¹⁰ 11⁶ 12⁽¹⁰⁾ 13²⁺⁵ 14⁶

15¹⁰ 16⁵ 17⁽¹⁰⁾ 18⁵ 19⁵ 20⁵ 21⁵ 22⁵ 23⁶ 24⁶ 25⁵ 26² 27⁵ 28⁶ 29⁵ 30¹ ^{20 June 1900} ^{from 1900} ^{from 1900}

31¹ ^{June 1900}

Sialia sialis 6¹⁺² 7³⁺⁴ 8¹ 9¹ 11² 12² 15¹ 16¹ 20² 24² 25² 26² 27¹

Total - 68 species.

Copied from my journal, Walter Deane.

Jan. 23, 1900.

1900

Aug. 1-27

Totanus solitarius 1 ♂. Taffy 9 ♂. Taffy 21 (2) Thunorike Pond
by Mrs. Jamison.

Circus hudsonius 13 ♂ ad Shattuck's

Buteo lineatus 3¹/₂ for 3 hrs. 9¹/₂ 11²/₂ 12¹/₂ 13¹/₂ 14¹/₂ 17¹/₂

" latissimus 21² seen

Syrnium nebulosum 25 ¹hooting at 11.30 P.M. in woods near the house, by W.B.

Coccyzus erythrophthalmus 3² 13^{*} 14² 15^{*} 20' 21' 22' 24'

Ceryle alcyon 21²/₈ Thunder Pond

Geophloeus pileatus 21'

Chordeiles virginianus 9' 10' 14' 17' ⁽³⁾ 18' ⁽³⁾ 20' 21' ⁽³⁾ 22' ⁽³⁾ 23' ⁽³⁾ 24' ⁽³⁾ 25' ⁽³⁾ 26' ⁽³⁾ 27' ⁽³⁾ 28' ⁽³⁾ 29' ⁽³⁾ 30' ⁽³⁾ 31' ⁽³⁾ 32' ⁽³⁾ 33' ⁽³⁾ 34' ⁽³⁾ 35' ⁽³⁾ 36' ⁽³⁾ 37' ⁽³⁾ 38' ⁽³⁾ 39' ⁽³⁾ 40' ⁽³⁾ 41' ⁽³⁾ 42' ⁽³⁾ 43' ⁽³⁾ 44' ⁽³⁾ 45' ⁽³⁾ 46' ⁽³⁾ 47' ⁽³⁾ 48' ⁽³⁾ 49' ⁽³⁾ 50' ⁽³⁾ 51' ⁽³⁾ 52' ⁽³⁾ 53' ⁽³⁾ 54' ⁽³⁾ 55' ⁽³⁾ 56' ⁽³⁾ 57' ⁽³⁾ 58' ⁽³⁾ 59' ⁽³⁾ 60' ⁽³⁾ 61' ⁽³⁾ 62' ⁽³⁾ 63' ⁽³⁾ 64' ⁽³⁾ 65' ⁽³⁾ 66' ⁽³⁾ 67' ⁽³⁾ 68' ⁽³⁾ 69' ⁽³⁾ 70' ⁽³⁾ 71' ⁽³⁾ 72' ⁽³⁾ 73' ⁽³⁾ 74' ⁽³⁾ 75' ⁽³⁾ 76' ⁽³⁾ 77' ⁽³⁾ 78' ⁽³⁾ 79' ⁽³⁾ 80' ⁽³⁾ 81' ⁽³⁾ 82' ⁽³⁾ 83' ⁽³⁾ 84' ⁽³⁾ 85' ⁽³⁾ 86' ⁽³⁾ 87' ⁽³⁾ 88' ⁽³⁾ 89' ⁽³⁾ 90' ⁽³⁾ 91' ⁽³⁾ 92' ⁽³⁾ 93' ⁽³⁾ 94' ⁽³⁾ 95' ⁽³⁾ 96' ⁽³⁾ 97' ⁽³⁾ 98' ⁽³⁾ 99' ⁽³⁾ 100' ⁽³⁾ 101' ⁽³⁾ 102' ⁽³⁾ 103' ⁽³⁾ 104' ⁽³⁾ 105' ⁽³⁾ 106' ⁽³⁾ 107' ⁽³⁾ 108' ⁽³⁾ 109' ⁽³⁾ 110' ⁽³⁾ 111' ⁽³⁾ 112' ⁽³⁾ 113' ⁽³⁾ 114' ⁽³⁾ 115' ⁽³⁾ 116' ⁽³⁾ 117' ⁽³⁾ 118' ⁽³⁾ 119' ⁽³⁾ 120' ⁽³⁾ 121' ⁽³⁾ 122' ⁽³⁾ 123' ⁽³⁾ 124' ⁽³⁾ 125' ⁽³⁾ 126' ⁽³⁾ 127' ⁽³⁾ 128' ⁽³⁾ 129' ⁽³⁾ 130' ⁽³⁾ 131' ⁽³⁾ 132' ⁽³⁾ 133' ⁽³⁾ 134' ⁽³⁾ 135' ⁽³⁾ 136' ⁽³⁾ 137' ⁽³⁾ 138' ⁽³⁾ 139' ⁽³⁾ 140' ⁽³⁾ 141' ⁽³⁾ 142' ⁽³⁾ 143' ⁽³⁾ 144' ⁽³⁾ 145' ⁽³⁾ 146' ⁽³⁾ 147' ⁽³⁾ 148' ⁽³⁾ 149' ⁽³⁾ 150' ⁽³⁾ 151' ⁽³⁾ 152' ⁽³⁾ 153' ⁽³⁾ 154' ⁽³⁾ 155' ⁽³⁾ 156' ⁽³⁾ 157' ⁽³⁾ 158' ⁽³⁾ 159' ⁽³⁾ 160' ⁽³⁾ 161' ⁽³⁾ 162' ⁽³⁾ 163' ⁽³⁾ 164' ⁽³⁾ 165' ⁽³⁾ 166' ⁽³⁾ 167' ⁽³⁾ 168' ⁽³⁾ 169' ⁽³⁾ 170' ⁽³⁾ 171' ⁽³⁾ 172' ⁽³⁾ 173' ⁽³⁾ 174' ⁽³⁾ 175' ⁽³⁾ 176' ⁽³⁾ 177' ⁽³⁾ 178' ⁽³⁾ 179' ⁽³⁾ 180' ⁽³⁾ 181' ⁽³⁾ 182' ⁽³⁾ 183' ⁽³⁾ 184' ⁽³⁾ 185' ⁽³⁾ 186' ⁽³⁾ 187' ⁽³⁾ 188' ⁽³⁾ 189' ⁽³⁾ 190' ⁽³⁾ 191' ⁽³⁾ 192' ⁽³⁾ 193' ⁽³⁾ 194' ⁽³⁾ 195' ⁽³⁾ 196' ⁽³⁾ 197' ⁽³⁾ 198' ⁽³⁾ 199' ⁽³⁾ 200' ⁽³⁾ 201' ⁽³⁾ 202' ⁽³⁾ 203' ⁽³⁾ 204' ⁽³⁾ 205' ⁽³⁾ 206' ⁽³⁾ 207' ⁽³⁾ 208' ⁽³⁾ 209' ⁽³⁾ 210' ⁽³⁾ 211' ⁽³⁾ 212' ⁽³⁾ 213' ⁽³⁾ 214' ⁽³⁾ 215' ⁽³⁾ 216' ⁽³⁾ 217' ⁽³⁾ 218' ⁽³⁾ 219' ⁽³⁾ 220' ⁽³⁾ 221' ⁽³⁾ 222' ⁽³⁾ 223' ⁽³⁾ 224' ⁽³⁾ 225' ⁽³⁾ 226' ⁽³⁾ 227' ⁽³⁾ 228' ⁽³⁾ 229' ⁽³⁾ 230' ⁽³⁾ 231' ⁽³⁾ 232' ⁽³⁾ 233' ⁽³⁾ 234' ⁽³⁾ 235' ⁽³⁾ 236' ⁽³⁾ 237' ⁽³⁾ 238' ⁽³⁾ 239' ⁽³⁾ 240' ⁽³⁾ 241' ⁽³⁾ 242' ⁽³⁾ 243' ⁽³⁾ 244' ⁽³⁾ 245' ⁽³⁾ 246' ⁽³⁾ 247' ⁽³⁾ 248' ⁽³⁾ 249' ⁽³⁾ 250' ⁽³⁾ 251' ⁽³⁾ 252' ⁽³⁾ 253' ⁽³⁾ 254' ⁽³⁾ 255' ⁽³⁾ 256' ⁽³⁾ 257' ⁽³⁾ 258' ⁽³⁾ 259' ⁽³⁾ 260' ⁽³⁾ 261' ⁽³⁾ 262' ⁽³⁾ 263' ⁽³⁾ 264' ⁽³⁾ 265' ⁽³⁾ 266' ⁽³⁾ 267' ⁽³⁾ 268' ⁽³⁾ 269' ⁽³⁾ 270' ⁽³⁾ 271' ⁽³⁾ 272' ⁽³⁾ 273' ⁽³⁾ 274' ⁽³⁾ 275' ⁽³⁾ 276' ⁽³⁾ 277' ⁽³⁾ 278' ⁽³⁾ 279' ⁽³⁾ 280' ⁽³⁾ 281' ⁽³⁾ 282' ⁽³⁾ 283' ⁽³⁾ 284' ⁽³⁾ 285' ⁽³⁾ 286' ⁽³⁾ 287' ⁽³⁾ 288' ⁽³⁾ 289' ⁽³⁾ 290' ⁽³⁾ 291' ⁽³⁾ 292' ⁽³⁾ 293' ⁽³⁾ 294' ⁽³⁾ 295' ⁽³⁾ 296' ⁽³⁾ 297' ⁽³⁾ 298' ⁽³⁾ 299' ⁽³⁾ 300' ⁽³⁾ 301' ⁽³⁾ 302' ⁽³⁾ 303' ⁽³⁾ 304' ⁽³⁾ 305' ⁽³⁾ 306' ⁽³⁾ 307' ⁽³⁾ 308' ⁽³⁾ 309' ⁽³⁾ 310' ⁽³⁾ 311' ⁽³⁾ 312' ⁽³⁾ 313' ⁽³⁾ 314' ⁽³⁾ 315' ⁽³⁾ 316' ⁽³⁾ 317' ⁽³⁾ 318' ⁽³⁾ 319' ⁽³⁾ 320' ⁽³⁾ 321' ⁽³⁾ 322' ⁽³⁾ 323' ⁽³⁾ 324' ⁽³⁾ 325' ⁽³⁾ 326' ⁽³⁾ 327' ⁽³⁾ 328' ⁽³⁾ 329' ⁽³⁾ 330' ⁽³⁾ 331' ⁽³⁾ 332' ⁽³⁾ 333' ⁽³⁾ 334' ⁽³⁾ 335' ⁽³⁾ 336' ⁽³⁾ 337' ⁽³⁾ 338' ⁽³⁾ 339' ⁽³⁾ 340' ⁽³⁾ 341' ⁽³⁾ 342' ⁽³⁾ 343' ⁽³⁾ 344' ⁽³⁾ 345' ⁽³⁾ 346' ⁽³⁾ 347' ⁽³⁾ 348' ⁽³⁾ 349' ⁽³⁾ 350' ⁽³⁾ 351' ⁽³⁾ 352' ⁽³⁾ 353' ⁽³⁾ 354' ⁽³⁾ 355' ⁽³⁾ 356' ⁽³⁾ 357' ⁽³⁾ 358' ⁽³⁾ 359' ⁽³⁾ 360' ⁽³⁾ 361' ⁽³⁾ 362' ⁽³⁾ 363' ⁽³⁾ 364' ⁽³

Chaetura pelagica 1¹⁰ 2¹⁵ 3⁶ 10⁶ 11⁴ 12¹ 13¹ 14⁶ 16³ 17⁶ 18⁽²⁹⁾ 19⁶ 21¹ 23⁵ 24³ 26¹

Trochilus colubris 18' 19' 20'

Tyrannus tyrannus 1' 9² 11² 14¹⁰ 15⁴ 16² 17² 18² 21'

Tayornis phoebe 2' 11" ^{1 sunrise} W.B. 14' 20' 22'

Contopus virens 11⁶⊗ 12³⊗ 13¹⊗ 21¹ 26⁶⊗

Cyanocitta cristata 2²* 11^W 14^W 15^D 16^W 17^W 18^D 21^W 22^W 23^W 24¹⁰*

Corvus americanus $14^{(5)}$ $15^{(2)}$ 16^3 $17^{(4)}$ $18^{(2)}$ $19^{(2)}$ $20^{(6)}$ $21^{(3+2)}$ 22^{2+2} 23^5 $24^{(4)}$ $27^{(2)}$

Dolichonyx oryzivorus 11' 20'

Carpodacus purpureus 23' calling

Passer domesticus 18' 23³

Astragalinus tristis 1' 2' 11^w 14^w 15^{*} 16² 17^w 19^w 20³ 21¹⁺⁶ 22² 23^{*}

Spizella socialis 10⁽⁵⁾ 11⁽⁵⁾ 12⁽⁶⁾ 13⁽¹⁰⁾ 15⁽⁷⁾ 17² 20¹

" pusilla 13* ^{1 full song} once 15' 20' ^{song four times} ~~weakly~~

Melospiza fasciata 1* 2* 14* 18* 21

Cyanospiza cyanea 2* 9* 11* full song twice at sunrise, W. B.

Progne subis 13^{ad.} W.B.

Petrochelidon lunifrons 26'

^x *Colaptes auratus luteus* 21'

Jaffrey, N.H.

1900

Aug. 1-27 Cyelidon erythrogaster 2² 11' 13² 14¹² 15² 16² 17' 18⁶ 20² 21¹² 22² 23⁵ 24⁶ 25⁶

(2) Ampelis cedrorum 12² 17⁶ 19⁴ 21²⁰

Lanius l. migrans 18 20¹ ^{seen by Dr. E. D. Emerson on his place and accurately described to W.B. Seen perched very near.}

Vireo olivaceus 1² 2⁴ 9² 11² 12² 13² 14⁶ 17² 20² 21² 23⁶ 25⁶ 26⁶ 27⁶

" solitarius 13¹ ^{young on nest} 15¹ 18² 19²

Mniotilta varia 12⁶

Dendroica coronata 9'

" maculosa 21' ^{1 in.} W.B.

" virrens 14' 15' ^{band 6} 18' 26'

Sciurus aurocapillus 15² 21²

" noveboracensis 13' 15'

Geothlypis trichas 1' 14⁶ 21' 24⁶

Wilsonia canadensis 13 ^{band feeding} ^{W.B. of 17.}

Sitta carolinensis 11' 13' 18² 20² 23' 24^{1 seen}

Parus atricapillus 14² 16' 17² 18⁵ 20⁶ 21² 22²⁰ 23²

Regulus satrapa 21' ¹² W.B.

Turdus a. pallasi 1² 13' 19' ^{1 in.}

Merula migratoria 1² 2² 9' 11² 13² 14⁶ 15² 16² 17¹² 18² 19¹² ^{W.B.} 20⁶ 21¹² 22⁵
23⁴ 24² 25' 26' ^{23 6}

Sialia sialis 21' ^{calling}

Total, 46 Species.

Six of these species were not observed in July: Totanus solitarius, Circus hudsonius, Syrnium nebulosum, Progne subis, Lanius longus and Sciurus noveboracensis. This gives a total of 74 species for July and August. The English Sparrow seems to be confined in small numbers to the centre of Jaffrey & E. Jaffrey, in the main. They are extending north west from Jaffrey centre for I have seen them on the hillside near the burying ground in the road about 1/3 of the way to Shattuck's from Cutler's Hotel.

Copied from my journal. Walter Deane, Nov. 23, 1900.

Bethel to Lake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 2

Clear & hot with S. wind.

Left Boston yesterday with the Stones by 9 A.M. train and spent the night at the Springs at Bethel.

Started for the Lake at 10.30 this forenoon in a double-seated four carriage with a pair of horses. Dined at Poplin Tavern and stopped at several places to take photographs so that we did not reach Lakeside until nearly dark.

Saw a good many birds - large flocks of Chipping Squirrels of which were accompanied by Bluebirds (of the Eastern species) of 20 or more, a few Robins, a Phoebe, two Kingbirds, three or four Flickers, a Kingfisher, several small flocks of Cedar birds etc.

Common
birds along
roadside

As we were passing through Grafton Notch a ♀ Duck Hawk appeared nearly over us flying in circles at a considerable height like a kestrel but with even more ease & grace keeping up this manner of flight until she faded out of sight in the distance. Though the glass I could see the feathers barring on the under parts for the bird was an adult.

✓
Duck Hawk
seen in
Grafton
Notch

The foliage along the entire route was as dense & green as in midsummer the only bits of brilliant color that we saw were confined to maple branches that had turned their leaves prematurely.

In Grafton south of the Notch we saw a truly remarkable flock of Blue Jays for it contained fully fifty birds. As we approached they flew from some apple trees by the roadside across a field into the woods passing on the open ground in a compact flock behind which, however, lingered a few Throats.

✓
Flock of
50 Blue Jays
in Grafton.

Lake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 3

Cloudless but breezy; very warm. A light thunder storm at 8 P.M.

Started up the Lake at 8.00 a.m. on the horse boat in time of the storm. As we neared Pine Point we could see a flock of 7 Shorebirds lining close in shore at the head of the boat. They flew over a narrow cove & were closely followed by an Eagle, a Kingfisher & a Spotted Sandpiper.

On landing I found the woods about the camp alive with small birds but I was too busy to look down one thoroughly and recognized only a few among which were a Redstart, an oven bird, & a Winter Wren. The first of which was singing freely.

At evening, just before sunset, four night hawks passed over the Point flying high & chasing about after insects.

Arrive at
Pine Point

Small birds
on the Point.

Redstart sings
freely.

Night hawks

" 4

Billions of chase & cooler with fresh N. to N.W. winds.

Spent most of the day fishing on the Lake. While there engaged some four Jays (apparently S. hirsuta) flying together along the shore of the bay between Horse Point & the Outlet.

In the afternoon we passed through Diamond's Pond where we counted 2 Blue Ducks & 4 Wood Ducks and saw two Eagles.

There were a great many small birds on the Point again to-day & among them I recognized Yellow Warblers & Black-throated Blue Warblers, Oven birds & a Winter Wren.

Later last night & this there was a rather heavy flight of small birds flying over the marshes.

Common(?)
Jays

Ducks &
Eagles

Small birds
on the Point

Heavy mig.
of Warblers etc.

Megalloway River.

1900.

Sept. 5

Clear & warm with strong S. W. wind.

At noon the Stems, George Thompson and I started on a trip up the Megalloway with Jim as guide taking the Camp boat & the two small landing canoes. In one of the latter I sailed the greater part of the way to the lower Steamer Landing at North-western Boatsmen. Saw a few Kingfishers, a solitary Whistler, two Eagles and a few small birds among which were a number of Blue Jays.

As we were waiting for the team which had been engaged to take us to Fred Flint when we were to spend the night a Brown Grackle flew past us up the river and we had driven some half a mile along the road towards Flint when we started an enormous flock of these birds from a grain stubble. They flew into a large tattered ashy maple which they completely covered with a black mass. A moment later they began returning to the stubble in detachments, beating down to the ground on set wings and soon fairly blackening it over a considerable space. There could scarcely have been less than 300 birds in the flock & I should be inclined to put the number even higher. No doubt the Grackles represented the combined colonies which had had been bred about the place last summer. There would be comparatively little food there now and they get rich pickings on the grain stubbles of the fertile Megalloway farms.

Trip up the
Megalloway to
Fred Flint

Whistler &
Eagles

Large flock
of Grackles
Hawks.

Megalloway River

1900.

Sept. 6

Cloudy most of the day with thin shower but brief. Return down
showers on in the early morning, the other two late in Megalloway to
the afternoon. Pine Point.

We left Falmouth at 7.30 a.m. and down to the
upper landing where we landed the canoe and started
down stream. As there was a strong head wind and
as we landed frequently to take photographs we made
rather slow progress spending the whole day on the
river and not reaching camp until twilight was
beginning to fall.

It was an interesting day with fine cloud effects
especially at sunset. There were many birds, too, of the
smaller kinds. I saw or heard Brown Cuckoos, Chickadees,
Nuthatches, Yellow-rumped and Black-throated Green Warblers,
a Canadian Flycatcher in full song (he sang at short regular
intervals as long as we were within hearing), Cedar Birds,
Blue Jays, Flickers (2), a few Robins, several Song Sparrows
etc.

Small birds

Canada Warbler
in full song

Of the larger birds we saw a Cooper's Hawk, 2 Sharp-shinned
Hawks, 2 Marsh Hawks, a Pigeon Hawk, an Osprey,
several Eagles, five or six Great Blue Herons, a Wood Duck,
two Hooded Mergansers, seven or eight Whistlers and
a number of Loons.

Hawks.

Eagles.

Herons.

Ducks.

The Pigeon Hawk appeared as we were coming lunch
on a beautiful rock of river at the base of Diamond Peak
and for several minutes soared in circles high overhead
moving with infinite ease & grace.

Pigeon Hawk.

As we emerged from Miller's Covey we heard Greater
Yellowlegs whistling & on reaching the Outlet saw a
flock of 14 of these birds flying low over the marshes. A
Belted Plover was also calling in the distance.

Winter Yellow-
legs.

Belted-head
Plover

Lake Umbagog.

1900.
Sept. 7

Peculiarly clear with cool breezy air and light N. to
N. W. wind.

To Moss Point at evening with George Foreworth.
I placed him near the end of the Point and chose for
myself a station further along the shore to the westward.
As twilight was falling between 30 & 40 Black Ducks came
into the marsh in small flocks & singly. None of them
joined within range of us but George fired a number of
shots and killed one bird. Several Great Blue Herons
came over the marsh but the reports of George's gun quickly
drove them away. As it was getting dark I heard
Snipe scuffling and one bird alighted near me with
a loud rustling of wings as it shot down from above.

Evening at
Moss Point

Black Ducks

Great Blue
Herons

Wilson's
Snipe

Lake Umbagog

1900.

Sept. 8

Sunny but very hazy; warm with fresh S. W. wind.

Walked to Offord's Point with the Stewards in P. M. There was little bird or animal life in the woods along the path. Indeed I can recall seeing only a Red Squirrel and hearing the chirps of a few Warblers. The Squirrels are much less numerous than they were formerly & I fear that many are constantly shot or trapped during my absence from the beach.

George & I went to Moose Point at evening. He took his former station which I chose a new one along the shore to the westward. I had scarcely settled myself comfortably in the canoe which was drawn up on the shore when a Snipe appeared on the high bank within ten or a few yards of me. After looking at me steadily for a moment it began picking among from place to place by short quick runs like a Sandpiper, at times walking more slowly, after trying repeatedly to peck in the hard-packed sandy ground it began picking up small objects with the tip of its bill precisely as a Sandpiper would do. Finally it discovered a worm on a very wet surface and having it firmly drew it out with one vigorous try and ate one swallow of it. Then it stalked off into the tall grass on the marsh but quickly returned and came even nearer to me than at first giving me a fair view for the bank was nearly bare and the daylight still shone. Shortly after this it waded off along the bank behind me. As twilight was falling into night I heard it scrape a dozen times or more in quick succession. The sound came from the bank that each time & there can be no question that the bird uttered it when on the ground, a thing new to my experience.

Pine Point
Small birds
scarce to-day.

Evening at
Moose Point
Wilson's
Snipe

Lake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 8
(No 2)

Evening at
Moose Point
Wilson's
Snake

The call was answered by that of another Snipe one in the marsh and presently both birds rose and, as I could tell by their cries, joined our another in the air & flew off together. A few minutes later one of them returned and alighted upon me making the usual loud whistle of wings as it descended, or, to be more precise, as it checked its speed at the end of the descent.

The flight of Ducks was much less to night than last night only about 20 or 25 appearing. Of these there were Hooded Mergansers and one a Wood Duck, all the others being Black Ducks. All of the last named came from the eastward. It was interesting to see them reassemble the ground before alighting. Most of the flocks would fly over or around the eastern marsh from two to four times, at first at a height beyond shot gun range, then lower, finally only 40 or 20 feet above the grass. It is this habit of theirs which gives us our shots at Moose Point for if they were wise enough to come over the marsh at a safe height and then descend into the middle portions they would be in little or no danger. Some of the flocks and many of the single birds have apparently learned this and of those which circle the marsh the majority ^{now} avoid the high banks along the shores of the lake where we hide ourselves. As they come back & forth over the wide expanse they ^{appear} alternately ^{to appear} and ^{disappear} in the water ^{or} ^{to} ^{lose} ^{to} ^{be} ^{seen} ^{for} a moment against some dark cloud or the black mountain masses beyond the Malloway River valley. After satisfying themselves that no danger lurks in the marsh they descend on wet wings making a flashing sound.

Hooded Mergansers
Wood Duck
Black Ducks

1900.
Sept. 8
(no 3)

Loake Umbagog.

Evening at
Moose Point
Black Duck

like that of wind in pines and a succession of loud splashes as their heavy bodies strike the water. After alighting they frequently thrash the water with their wings and for minutes at a time the marsh fairly rings with the loud quacking of the ducks and the wheezy, asthmatic calls of the ducks.

Other characteristic sounds of the Moose Point marsh at evening are the rasping scap of Snipe, the nasal punctuating harise or aink of the Blunt Bittern, the squealing of Wood Ducks, & the clear lively whistle of wings made by all these waterfowl when the air is still and often audible hundreds of yards away. Then in the background as it were nearly always rises at measured intervals the solemn hoo, hoo-hoo, hoo, hoo of the Great Horned Owl. Altogether the marsh is an attractive place at which to spend an hour or so of a calm September evening.

Sounds of
the marsh
at evening

Lake Umbagog

1900.
Sept. 9

Clear and cool with N. W. wind.

For the past week I have heard numerous Warblers and a few Thrushes migrating at various hours of the night but there has been no really great rush during this period. On the Point there are nearly always a few Warblers spending the day but their numbers have diminished steadily ever since we came, and on no occasion have I found more than a few species and a dozen or two in the woods. Altogether the smaller birds have been a disappointment thus far this season.

The fascination of watching the winging birds at Moon Point draws the sports & we there again this evening. As it was Sunday & "close town" I did not take my gun. Only about 20 Ducks, all A. O. O., came in. There were also a few Hens and a night hawk & we heard several Ings. Earlier in the day the sports saw five Bald Eagles, one an old bird soaring in company on the mountain.

migrating
Warblers &
Thrushes
scarce at
Pine Point
this autumn.

Evening at
Moose Point

Black Ducks

Five Eagles
soaring together

1900.

Sept. 10

Loake Umbagog

Pine Point

Cloudy most of the day with light, variable winds interspersed with long intervals of calm.

As Mr. Stone and I were standing on the deck of the house boat this morning an Osprey closely followed by a Gos Hawk suddenly appeared over the coast and started out across the Lake. The Osprey kept on towards the Outlet but the Gos Hawk turned back and, flying very swiftly with rapidly beating wings like a Duck Hawk, shot past our boat within 30 yards and swooped at a Kingfisher which was flying along the shore. When he was within 15 or 20 feet of the Kingfisher the latter doubled or rather zig-zagged, at the same time rattling loudly & incessantly. The Hawk then abandoned the chase and turning slightly disappeared among the trees. From this experience and others that I have had with Gos. Hawks I should say that they have ~~the~~ ^{are} ~~descriptions~~ ^{are} ~~more~~ ^{more} powerful flight than with ~~of his relatives~~ ^{of his relatives} the Cooper's & Sharp-shinned Hawks & that they are much more given to chasing their ~~own~~ ^{prey} ~~prey~~ ^{prey} ~~instead~~ ^{instead} ~~although~~ ^{although} like the other two birds just mentioned, they ^{are apt to give up the pursuit} ~~are apt to give up the pursuit~~ ~~apparently~~ ^{apparently} ~~quickly~~ ^{quickly} ~~disappeared~~ ^{disappeared} if the first dash fails.

Gos hawk
chases a
Kingfisher.

On the wing they closely resemble ~~the~~ ^{large} Cooper's Hawks. Mr. Stone & I went to Moose Point again this evening. Less than a dozen Ducks, all Black, were seen. I had no shots.

Moose Point
at evening

As the daylight faded two Ring-necked Plover came down about our waterway their plaintive, wailing cry, heard in the day in some form or other about on the Point in company with a Great Sandpiper & I got a good photograph of the three. The marshes are now in fine condition for shooting.

Ring-necked
Plover

Lake Umbagog

1900.

Sept. 14

Sunny, the sky half filled with cloud masses driving rapidly before the violent, gusty N. W. wind. A superb sunset. Warm at midday, cool in the early morning & at evening. There has been no change in the foliage as yet even with the bracken about the camp many of whose leaves have withered & fallen. The maples remain as green as in midsummer.

The Stairs and I left camp at 9 A. M. crossed the lake and started down the Andros cove. Opposite Bernard's Pond we found Mr. Dutton beating the marshes for snipe. As I was watching him I discovered four large Wadsworths which I took at first for Summer Yellowlegs feeding on a floor of bare mud on the edge of the river. Dutton soon saw them too & approaching fired several shots killing three of them. Before this slaughter was completed and while the frightened birds were dashing back & forth over the flats I recognized them as Red Breasted Snipe, a species new to my Umbagog list. On landing and examining the three that Mr. Dutton had killed I found that they were all typical griseus and all young birds. They were in curiously colored plumage neither in the brown-backed, red-breasted summer plumage nor in the gray and white winter dress but having the brown of the upper & the red of the lower parts overlaid or clouded with grayish through which the richer colors showed indistinctly as through a veil. I think I have seen this plumage before in specimens shot late in September or early in October. It is apparently a transition state between the summer & winter plumage.

Beside the Red-Breasted Snipe Dutton flushed a number of Wilson's Snipe which we were watching him. He & Harry Russell who was with him had also killed a Carolina Rail and two brown Yellowlegs.

Down the
Andros cove

Red-breasted
Snipe

Wilson's
Snipe
Carolina Rail
Yellowlegs

Loake Umbagog

1900.

Sept. 14

(No 2.)

Continuing on down the river we landed over to take some photographs and then entered Sweets Meadow. The water was very low but we found two Black Ducks and four Hooded Mergansers near the head of the creek that wound through the bare mud flats.

One of the Mergansers returned later & flew past us several times.

He was here sitting on a rotten blanket spread on a hillock in the marsh. Afterwards, as we were taking some photographs of the pond a Kingfisher hovered near us and plunging into the water there a fish so large that after a brief struggle he was obliged to let it go being quite unable apparently to bring it above the surface. I cannot recall ever being this happen before.

In the afternoon we went to Curtis Meadows. The water was so very low here that we could not find the canvas bank beyond the wooded point near the lower floating island but the place was alive with large birds. There were three Black Ducks, four Hood Ducks and two Hooded Mergansers swimming near the point just mentioned, a Great Blue Heron standing on the shore, and an immense Brown Eagle & a Brown Marsh Hawk flying over the marsh. The Eagle came within that before he saw us.

As we were taking some photographs two Great Horned Owls began hooting in the woods to the westward keeping it up for quite a long time although it was early in the afternoon (about 3.30) and the sun shining bright & hot at the time. One birds hoot was regularly the typical hoo, hoo-hoo, hoo, hoo; the other with equal regularity hooted hoo, hoo-hoo-hoo, hoo-hoo-hoo, hoo. The hooting of the second form regularly followed that of the first in quick succession; then there was a pause of several seconds before the first bird hooted again. I do not recall ever having these Owls hoot in broad daylight in the north before but it has happened at least once in my experience in the South - at Charleston, S.C. -

Sweets
Meadows.

Hooded
Mergansers.

Kingfisher
strikes a
fish too
large to
capture

Curtis
Meadows.

Black Ducks
Hood "
Hooded Mergansers
G. B. Heron

Eagle &
Marsh Hawk

Great Horned
Owls hoot-
ing in bright
sunlight.

Loake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 14

(no 3)

We had finished photography and were about to leave the pond when a Blue-winged Teal darted past me about on a level with my head & so near that I instinctively flung out it with my paddle. It alighted in the water about 50 yards off and swimming to the shore climbed to the top of a mud heap where it sat doing in the sun. I had a Reflex Camera with me and putting in a plate holder I paddled to a point opposite the bird and allowed the camera to drift down towards it with the wind opposing both plates (both afterwards turned out to be light - flunk & worthless) when I thought I was within good range. My best chance came a moment later, however, when the bird started out of its humbug by my near approach began walking slowly along the smooth muddy shore with head & neck erect. Before it flew I was literally within ten feet of it.

A tame
Blue wing
Teal.

Nothing of official interest happened on our way back to camp. The wind had fallen to a light breeze and the water sky was filled with masses of dark clouds. Muskrats are thin along furrows across the dark water, Great Blue Herons flapped lazily ~~and~~ the broad meadows, now & then a Duck whistled close past us ~~as~~ we heard the screech of a wandering Sings. Altogether it was an interesting day - quite the most so of any thus far been back here thus far this season.

Return to
Camp at
evening.

Herons, Ducks
& Sings in
Outlet meadows

1900

Sept. 15

Loake Umbagog.

Clear and calm with flying clouds & "mass'locks" gathering in the west are coming.

Trip down
the Lake.

We started down the Lake this morning leaving the cabin shore & entering water of the cove. At the head of Glassy Cove we saw a Snow Fox. He was evidently engaged in hunting mice. Stealing slowly along the edge of a patch of tall grass his head & tail curved very low he would stop very close & then raise his head as if to listen, and then jumping vigorously upward & forward descend into the midst of the grass and almost immediately spring back & out again. Sometimes he did this three or four times in quick succession. He did not so much catch any thing & it looked as if he was merely taking these plunges on the chance of alighting on a mouse but probably he first bites first himself either by scent or hearing that an was really there. He presently vanished us and bounded off into the woods.

A Fox
seen in
Glassy Cove.

Along the shore beyond we saw nothing but a few Sheldrakes. Reaching the head of the Lake Cove at about noon we landed there and afterwards took a number of photographs, one of a fine Banks's Pine which measured 44 inches around the trunk a foot above the ground & which we estimated to be about 65 ft high. This was the largest specimen I could find. There were altogether perhaps 20 trees of about 20 feet in height and very many little ones. They grew not only along the Lake shore but were back into the old "Spruce" where they intermingled with white & red spruce, white pine, Cedars, Dogwoods, Birches, Apples & others there common to this region.

Sheldrakes.

Banks's
Pines in
Tyler Cove.

In these rather open woods I heard a good many small birds but nothing of peculiar interest. We called at Middle Island on the way back & Mr. Dutton very kindly took us to camp in his team yard.

Small birds
Metallina
Island

Lake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 15
(No 2)

There were many small birds in the woods on the Point this morning than I have seen there at any one time since the first few days of our stay this season. I looked thru our campfire with the glass and listed the following: Larus atricollis, one; Parus atricapillus, several; Troglodytes hiemalis, (2); Minutella varia, (2); Dendroica virens, 1; D. cerulea, (3 2 2); Seiurus aurocapillus, 1; S. noveboracensis, 1; Sporus pinus, heard flying one; Habia melanocephala, ♀; Agelaius cristatus, (4); Colaptes auratus, 1 x; Actitis macularia, 1. A loon was swimming off the Point & Kingfishers, Eagles, Herons & Sandpeeps were flying over the water.

Heavy flight
of small birds

Species noted
on Pine Point.

Loon, Eagles,
Herons, Sandpeeps

At about 10.30 P.M. an Owl bird rose over the woods behind the camp and gave the warbling part of the flight song with much variation & vigor but omitting the broken notes. The night was warm, calm and dark the flying obscured by clouds at the time.

Flight song
of Owl Bird
given with
full vigor

Loake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 16

Cloudy with light easterly wind & intervals of dead calm. Several
birds however are very full.

In the woods near the end of the Point I identified this morning
1 Turdus olivaceus, 4 Parus atricapillus, 2 Regulus satrapa, 2 Agelaius phoeniceus, on Pine Point
1 Sturnus vulgaris, 1 Geothlypis trichas, (12) Amphisp. cedrorum, 1
Corvus americanus.


Small birds

Off the mouth of our boat came and close to the rocky shore
of the Point a Red-bellied Gull was floating idly on the
water at about 9 a.m. I paddled out to within about 30 yards
of it when it flew, rising with some difficulty & going directly
out into the lake for about 200 yds. when it alighted again.
It was a young bird with dark streaks on the chest & neck.
It is unusual to find this Gull in deep water off a rocky shore
& equally unusual for it to take wing when approached.

Pied-billed
Greeter

Later in the afternoon the storm & I in two canoes paddled to
Whaler's Point Cove where we found 2 Black Ducks, and a Great Horn
Heron and heard a Pileated Woodpecker.

Black Ducks,
Heron, &
Pileated Wood,
Goosander

As we were approaching Moss Point a flock of 14 Goosanders
came in from the lake & alighted close to the shore. We sat
motionless in the canoes for sometime watching them. After swimming
about awhile in the shallow water they landed and stood in
a long row on the mud facing us. Their position while thus
engaged was nearly erect ~~but~~ or rather more erect than ~~usual~~
the true Anas species  but when they walked about as
they did freely and ~~not~~ not imperceptibly for such heavy birds
they carried their bodies usually horizontal. When we paddled
in towards them they flew directly from the mud rising
as easily as from the water. About a week ago I saw four
& yesterday two young Goosanders that were still in the "flapper"
stage and unable to fly.

Loake Umbagog.

1908.

Sept. 21

Early morning cloudy, most of day clear & very warm. Heavy thunder storm at 4 P. M. followed by a succession of showers through the evening.

The steamer towed us to Lakeside on the evening of the 19th and to Reader's Bend in the Cambridge River the next morning. As we entered the mouth of the river we saw a Whistler & several Herons. Later in the day 5- White Bellied Swallows coming flying fast. There were many small birds chirping & calling in the woods near our anchorage but the rain kept us from going far from the boat. Jim stretched 2 Wilson's Snipe on the mouth of the brook.

Early this morning we saw an immense flock of Geese (at least 150), a flock of 23 Ducks which I took for Gadwall, a flock of 16 Ring-necked Pheasants which alighted on a mud flat not far from the boat after whirling & circling over the marshes for many minutes. There were also Kingfishers, Starlings, Robins, Rusty Grackles, Herons and then or four Black Ducks flying about.

At 8 A. M. we started up Cambridge River in two boats. The clouds were beginning to break as we left the upper landing and the sun was soon out & the woods flooded with light. I have never seen the exquisite little river more beautiful than it was for the next four or five hours. Then the sky clouded over again & we just escaped the first thunder storm by hurrying to Jim's chop as it was being drawn on us from across the lake.

In going up the river about half way to the Falls. The water was very low, the growth of tall grasses unusually rank & fine. The banks were simply covered with deer tracks.

The woods were simply alive with small birds. I saw or heard

We close the camp at Pine Point and go to Reader's Brook, Highton, in the house-boat.

Big flock of Crowns, Golden-crowns, Pectoral S.

Small birds, Herons, Ducks

Trip up Cambridge River.

Small birds abundant.

Lake Umbagog

1900.
Sept. 21
(No 2)

very many Chickadees, at least a dozen Golden-cree Kinglets, a
Winter Wren, 3 Marsh Wrens, 1 Cowbird & 1 Winter Wren. I counted
a number of Hens among which I recognized only one, a
H. Hens, Robins, Blue Jays, 2 Hudsonian Chickadees, several
Downy Woodpeckers, 2 Partridges, 2 Pitters, a Great Blue Heron,
a Wilson's Snipe & a Black Duck. I thought to say not a single
Kingfisher was with.

The Snipe was standing on a sandy bank scarcely
covered with short green grass. He was evidently sunning himself
and very warm. Then he closed his eyes & took a big nap.
I was puzzled ^{there} as to whether he was asleep or not & I
approached then slowly at him. He paid little attention to
us at first but as we were returning from the third trip
to the shelter of a bank when I changed my place holders
he suddenly took alarm, flew across the river, rose up
under a shading bank & squatted there. After this he
kept well above of us flying, skimming under overhanging
banks & tufts of grass & finally taking a long flight out
of our sight through the woods. While I was photographing
him he squatted once for a moment, but most of the
time stood in much the same attitude as a sandpiper.

Up up
Cambridge R.
Small birds
seen there.

Partridges, Herons
Snipe, Ducks

Wilson's
Snipe

Loake Umbagog

1500.

September

1. *Sialia sialis* - 2⁽⁹⁾ 21⁽¹⁰⁾ 23⁽¹¹⁾ 25⁽¹²⁾
 2. *Merula migratoria* - 2⁽¹²⁾ 14⁽¹³⁾ 19⁽¹⁴⁾ 20⁽¹⁵⁾ 21⁽¹⁶⁾ 22⁽¹⁷⁾ 23⁽¹⁸⁾ 24⁽¹⁹⁾
 3. *Turdus palmarum* - 10⁽²⁰⁾
 4. " *aliciae* - 15⁽²¹⁾ 6⁽²²⁾
 5. *Parus atricapillus* - 5⁽²³⁾ 7⁽²⁴⁾ 8⁽²⁵⁾ 12⁽²⁶⁾ 13⁽²⁷⁾ 14⁽²⁸⁾ 15⁽²⁹⁾ 16⁽³⁰⁾ 18⁽³¹⁾ 19⁽³²⁾ 20⁽³³⁾ 21⁽³⁴⁾ 25⁽³⁵⁾
 6. " *hudsonicus* - 5⁽³⁶⁾ 14⁽³⁷⁾ 21⁽³⁸⁾
 7. *Sitta carolinensis* - 13⁽³⁹⁾ 18⁽⁴⁰⁾ 21⁽⁴¹⁾ 24⁽⁴²⁾
 8. " *canadensis* - 3⁽⁴³⁾ 4⁽⁴⁴⁾ 7⁽⁴⁵⁾ 10⁽⁴⁶⁾ 15⁽⁴⁷⁾ 18⁽⁴⁸⁾ 19⁽⁴⁹⁾ 21⁽⁵⁰⁾
 9. *Regulus satrapa* - 5⁽⁵¹⁾ 16⁽⁵²⁾ 18⁽⁵³⁾ 19⁽⁵⁴⁾ 21⁽⁵⁵⁾
 10. *Certhia f. americana* - 6⁽⁵⁶⁾ 21⁽⁵⁷⁾
 11. *Troglodytes hiemalis* - 3⁽⁵⁸⁾ 4⁽⁵⁹⁾ 7⁽⁶⁰⁾ 10⁽⁶¹⁾ 13⁽⁶²⁾ 15⁽⁶³⁾ 18⁽⁶⁴⁾ 19⁽⁶⁵⁾ 21⁽⁶⁶⁾
 12. *Anthus pensilvanicus* - 10⁽⁶⁷⁾ 15⁽⁶⁸⁾ 20⁽⁶⁹⁾ 24⁽⁷⁰⁾
 13. *Parus varius*
 14. *Dendroica coronata* - 3⁽⁷¹⁾ 4⁽⁷²⁾ 7⁽⁷³⁾ 14⁽⁷⁴⁾ 18⁽⁷⁵⁾ 20⁽⁷⁶⁾ 21⁽⁷⁷⁾ 23⁽⁷⁸⁾ 24⁽⁷⁹⁾ 25⁽⁸⁰⁾
 15. " *maculosa* - 15⁽⁸¹⁾ 19⁽⁸²⁾
 16. " *viridis* - 6⁽⁸³⁾ 18⁽⁸⁴⁾
 17. " *castanea* - 19⁽⁸⁵⁾
 18. " *strata* - 19⁽⁸⁶⁾ 21⁽⁸⁷⁾
 19. " *h. hypochrysa* - 23⁽⁸⁸⁾
 20. *Empidonax hammondi* - 7⁽⁸⁹⁾ 18⁽⁹⁰⁾ 19⁽⁹¹⁾
 21. *Helminthophila rubicapilla* - 6⁽⁹²⁾
 22. " *discolor* - 3⁽⁹³⁾ 4⁽⁹⁴⁾ 5⁽⁹⁵⁾ 15⁽⁹⁶⁾ 19⁽⁹⁷⁾
 23. " *novboracensis* - 4⁽⁹⁸⁾ 15⁽⁹⁹⁾ 16⁽¹⁰⁰⁾
 24. *Geothlypis trichas* - 16⁽¹⁰¹⁾ 18⁽¹⁰²⁾ 21⁽¹⁰³⁾
 25. *Sylvania canadensis* - 6⁽¹⁰⁴⁾
 26. *Stelgidopteryx serripennis* - 3⁽¹⁰⁵⁾ 4⁽¹⁰⁶⁾ 6⁽¹⁰⁷⁾
 27. *Dendroica caerulescens* - 3⁽¹⁰⁸⁾ 4⁽¹⁰⁹⁾ 7⁽¹¹⁰⁾ 10⁽¹¹¹⁾ 13⁽¹¹²⁾ 14⁽¹¹³⁾
 28. *Vireo olivaceus* - 5⁽¹¹⁴⁾ 10⁽¹¹⁵⁾
 29. " *solitarius* - 19⁽¹¹⁶⁾
 30. " *philadelphicus* - 19⁽¹¹⁷⁾
 31. *Empidonax cedrorum* - 2⁽¹¹⁸⁾ 3⁽¹¹⁹⁾ 4⁽¹²⁰⁾ 5⁽¹²¹⁾ 6⁽¹²²⁾ 11⁽¹²³⁾ 16⁽¹²⁴⁾

Loake Umbagog

1900.

September

2 - 25

32. ✓ *Hirundo erythrogastra* 3 hd. 4 hd.
 33. ✓ *Petrochelidon lunifrons* 1 hd.
 34. ✓ *Tachycineta bicolor* 20⁽⁵⁾
 35. ✓ *Corporaco purpurea* 4 hd. 15' 19' 20 hd. 21 hd.
 36. ✓ *Loxia c. minor* 3 hd. 4 hd.
 37. ✓ *Spinus tristis* 4 hd. 14 hd. 3 hd.
 38. ✓ " *pinus* 4 hd. 9 hd. 18 hd.
 39. ✓ *Zonotrichia albicollis* 3 hd. 15' 20 hd. 21⁴
 40. ✓ " *caprimulgus* 23⁽³⁾ 25' 26' (First song a dozen or more times all through)
 41. ✓ *Spizella socialis* 2 (50) (50) 23⁽³⁾ 24⁽³⁾
 42. ✓ *Podiceps gramineus* 24⁽²⁾
 43. ✓ *Junco hyemalis* 24⁽²⁾
 44. ✓ *Melospiza fasciata* 2² 3² 5² 6' 20² 21² 24²
 45. ✓ " *lincolni* 18'
 46. ✓ " *georgiana* 14' 21'
 47. ✓ *Habia ludovicianae* 15' 20'
 48. ✓ *Gauchaeria cyanea* 21'
 49. ✓ *Scotaphaga carolinensis* 16' 2 (10) 21⁽⁵⁾
 50. ✓ *Lincolnia p. annua* 5⁽³⁰⁾ 21⁽⁵⁾
 51. ✓ *Corvus americanus* 2⁶ 3¹⁰ 4² 5⁶ 6¹⁰ 14' 16' 20²⁰ 21⁽⁵⁾ 23, 24, 25
 52. ✓ *Cyanocitta cristata* 2 (50) 5⁽⁵⁾ 6⁶ 8^{hd.} 9³ 10⁽⁵⁾ 13' 14⁽⁵⁾ 15¹⁰ 19²⁰ 20² 21² 23, 24, 25
 53. ✓ *Tyrannus tyrannus* 2²
 54. ✓ *Sayornis phoebe* 2² 24'
 55. ✓ *Ceryle alcyon* 2³ 3² 4⁴ 5⁴ 6⁸ 7² 10³ 13' 14¹⁰ 18⁴ 16' 17⁴ 18⁽²⁾ 19⁽²⁾ 20⁽⁴⁾
 56. ✓ *Chordeiles trigeminus* 3⁽⁵⁾ 6⁽⁵⁾ 8' 9' 21'
 57. ✓ *Colaptes auratus* 2⁴ 6⁽²⁾ 15¹⁰ 18¹⁰ 20⁽⁵⁾ 21¹⁰ 22⁶
 58. ✓ *Geothlypis trichas* 16¹⁰
 59. ✓ *Dryotates villosus* 5' 5¹ 9' 15^{hd.} 19^{hd.}
 60. ✓ " *p. melanurus* 9' 21² 23'
 61. ✓ *Talpa pennsylvanica* 2² ad
 62. ✓ " *columbianus* 6' 9'

Lake Umbagog.

1900.

- September 93 ✓ Ureaster inbre ^{FL} 6' 9' 10' x 13' 15' ^{FL} 17² 19'
- 2-25- 94 ✓ Podilymbus podiceps 16' ^{juv} a very tame bird swimming in deep water off Pine Point.

Covered, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

Oct 2

Morning cloudy; afternoon brilliantly clear with E. wind.

Took 1.47 P.M. train for Covered where I expect to pass most of the remainder of this month. There was almost no autumn coloring between Cambridge & Lexington and the deciduous trees standing on high ground presented a sad appearance the foliage being withered as if scorched by fire. Some of the oak woods were uniformly of a pale grayish brown color. This is the effect of the drought which in the west here I have seen known.

I settle at
the Cabin.

Beyond Lexington there was some brilliant coloring in the maple groves & I saw some of the withered trees. The Ball's Hill woods were the most brilliantly colored of all and back of the house as had not turned were perfectly green & fresh. I cannot understand this.

As we were walking down to the river from the Mrs. Bedford Horton in saw a Red-shouldered Hawk & two juncos. A flock of Kittiwake was flying over the meadow & alighted for a moment on the muddy margin of our boat canal.

After crossing the river I took a walk to the Barnet meadow & later crossed the bridge behind the hill, seeing an Oven Bird, a Water Thrush, then Black-poll Warblers, a Partridge & a New-England Towhee. The Great Blue-winged Teal was flying rapidly up river over the Barnet Dam Rapids. I also saw a Black-bellied Cuckoo.

Black-bellied
Cuckoo

" 3

Cloudy, calm, mild.

Birds appeared to be home to-day. Gilbert saw a Black-Black-bellied Cuckoo & heard a Lutescent colt behind Ball's Hill.

Black-bellied
Cuckoo
Lutescent

At 11.30 P.M. I heard Duells thrashing the water near the Cabin. They made a prodigious noise in the still night.

Duells in
the river
at night

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

October 4

Early morning foggy, forenoon cloudy, after noon clear & warm with light S.W. wind.

When I awoke at daybreak the woods about the cabin were shrouded in dense fog. I could hear Crows cawing, Jays screaming, Robins calling, a Cat bird meowing and a Screech Owl whining. Presently a bird, which I took at first to be the Cat-bird, began singing in subdued tones very near my window uttering a prolonged melody of chattering, strutting & whistling notes among which I soon recognized a further rendering of the Spring Song as well as the call note of Bicknell's Thrush. The next moment the bird appeared in an oak within a few yards & I identified him positively as J. a. Bicknell's, a small, dark specimen.

He flitted about among the oaks near me for ten or fifteen minutes frequently singing & still more frequently regarding himself in the mirror of a frosty globe which he usually took on wing, flying directly at the branches, turning a berry which passing for an instant on beating wings and then alighting to swallow it. Later in the day Gilbert & I saw him at or near this globe vine many times.

The Cat bird also appeared repeatedly at the globe vine and several Robins joined him and shared his feast.

The Rusty Blackbirds have established a roost this autumn in the bottom bushes opposite Museum Landing. I heard them leave the roost this morning at about sunrise when the fog was at its thickest. Judging by the clamor they made as they passed the cabin there must have been over 100 birds in the flock. They returned to the roost this evening in small parties between sunset & dark a few birds arriving here & there before sunset.

Birds about
The cabin at
daybreak.
Bicknell's
Thrush sings
solito note.

Cat bird
eating small
red grapes
A roost of
Rusty Black
birds.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

October 5

Early morning foggy. A brisk shower at 8 a.m. Remainder of day clear, nearly calm & oppressively warm.

There were a number of birds about the cabin this morning. First I saw a Gray-chested Thrush, certainly ~~not~~ the same that Thrush was here yesterday but a large, Tame alcivis. He called over or twice as he flitted about among the bushes.

Next I heard a Tanager calling simply chip (without the chew). Scarlet Tanager eating large wild grapes. He was in the tall vine vespers over the canoe landing but he presently descended to a vine covered with straggling bunches of large purple wild grapes which he began eating rolling them somewhat awkwardly in his bill to remove the skins and then swallowing the greenish pulp. He was an old male with jet black wings & tail & plain autumn plumage in which I could detect no trace of red. One of his wings displayed more than the other as if it had been hurt in some way but he flew freely & vigorously.

Of less interesting birds I saw or heard in the woods & thickets along the South side of Ball's Hill not far from the cabin a Golden-crowned Kinglet, House Wren, Bell's Wren, Swamp Sparrows, Song Sparrows & Robins. I also twice heard Bluebirds passing overhead as well as Rusty Blackbirds & Titlarks. A Flicker & a Downy called in the distance. Later in the afternoon I heard a Song Sparrow sing freely & a Swamp Sparrow vigorously & well. Commoner birds.

After I had finished writing my journal last night a Screech Owl paid us a visit & worked dismally many times apparently in view of the owls in front of the door. The screeches of the Screech Owl were all cancellable. This bird was probably not so far away yet his screeches did not sound as loud as when he was working on the other side of the river canyon in the morning. Screech Owl

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

October 6

Cloudy with chill E. wind which brought fine drizzling rain after dark this evening.

The only birds noted near the cabin to-day were two Kinglets, a Black-poll and a Chickadee's Thrush, the last seen by Gilbert. In Holden's woods several jays were seen in the afternoon. A quail beating the bushes with a pointed dog find four or five shots and I saw him flush and kill one Snipe.

At the farm where I spent the forenoon I heard a Cat Bird and a Flicker and saw a number of Crows. The road near the school house was swarming with birds mostly Chipping with a flock of eight Blackbirds which were eating the fruit of the smooth berries and at least one Grass Finch. There a bottle of seeds behind Bennett's a flock of 12 or 15- Juncos rose as I drove past & I saw others in other places, perhaps 20 in all.

At about six o'clock this evening as I was driving I heard a Golden Plover whistle four or eight times. It was evidently flying and apparently on a considerable height and towards the eastward. I cannot recall seeing this species in Concord for more than thirty years. If I remember rightly D. C. French shot one & perhaps saw or saw others at Haverhill the first year (1867) the family occupied their farm there.

Birds noted
at the Farm.

Golden Plover
heard at
Ball's Hill

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill

1900.

October 7

Cloudy with fine, drizzling rain - cooler than when a "scotch mist" but enough to make the trees drip freely & to keep the grass & woods well soaked.

In forenoon walked to Davis's Hill, in afternoon to the Bradman & Holden's Hill woods. Saw a good many small birds - Chickadees, Kinglets (Parus), Crows (2), Cat Birds (2), a Towhee, several Black-poll Warblers, Song Sparrows, a Swamp Sparrow, numbers of Blue Jays & Ac. Nutcracker (Castorinus).

A Partridge was downy early in the afternoon behind Balls Hill and between 3 & 4 P. M. I started four others all from the tops of trees deciduous trees in the woods.

One flew from a poplar (grandidentata) and all three of the others from clusters of trees of which poplars formed a part.

This leads me to think that the birds may have been engaged in "budding". They all started from a height of 40 to 60 feet. None of the poplars have as yet shed their leaves.

A Kingfisher spent the day along the Balls Hill shore. It was pleasant to hear his familiar rattling sound through the mist-blurred air. He was very shy.

Red Squirrels are numerous this autumn in my woods; Chipmunks fairly so. I see about the usual number of Gray Squirrels. The crop of acorns & chestnuts is rather abundant but not especially so.

The Audubon Hill chirp slightly about the cabin but they are less persistent now than when we arrived a week ago.

Partridges
"budding"
poplars

Kingfisher

Red and
Gray Squirrels

Tree Cuckoo

Concord, Mass.

1900.

October 8

Ball's Hill

Sunny most of the day, but the sky half-filled with masses of clouds. Oppressively warm with light S.W. wind. Brief showers in afternoon and steady & rather heavy rain all the evening.

This was a day rather memorable for the number of large birds which appeared near Ball's Hill. At noon two Herring Gulls (most unusual visitors at this season) passed southward, pausing to wheel about over the river in front of the cabin before continuing on their way.

Large birds

Herring Gulls.

At about 2 P.M. a flock of 25 Black Ducks came from the northward directly over Ball's Hill and then turning westward disappeared around Holden's Hill flying at a considerable height and in the shape of a hollow V-like line.

Black Ducks.

As before later an Osprey circled over the ~~Ball's~~ Meadows low down and then passed for a moment over the river finally going off over the woods in the direction of Davis's Hill.

Osprey.

Still later a ♀ Marsh Hawk appeared over Great Meadows which she beat thoroughly without, however, finding any game, at least while I was watching her.

Marsh Hawk

Of small birds I saw very few, a huthatch (concolor) at Holden's Hill, two Song Sparrows on the edge of the river, three Rusty Blackbirds flying, and a few Chickadees near the cabin being nearly a full lot. There was also a Kingfisher sitting & plunging into the water along the wooded edge of the river at the base of the Hill.

Small birds

Kingfisher

Concord, Mass.

Balls' Hill

1900.

October 9

The rain storm which began at about seven o'clock last evening continued through the night and the whole of to-day gradually increasing in violence with to-day a strong N.E. wind.

As I spent most of the day in or near the cabin my opportunities for observing birds were limited.

In the forenoon two adult Herring Gulls appeared over the river and flew back & forth low down many times evidently scanning the water closely in search of food. The Kingfisher was also present again. We heard Eastern Yellowlegs whistling at intervals and I saw two descend from a great height & alight in the meadows. There was also a Bittern (the first I have seen this autumn) flying from place to place.

Herring Gulls

Kingfisher

Wm. Yellowlegs

Bittern

Late in the afternoon several shots were fired near the middle of the Great Meadows.

The woods round nearly barren of bird life. I saw two Black-hole Warblers and heard a Golden-crowned Kinglet while a Chickadee came to feed on the limb in front of our door, the first time this has happened since one arrived. Just before dark I started a Partridge in the dense, rising thickets at the east end of Balls' Hill. I do not see them as frequently as usual this autumn in the neighborhood of the cabin and they seem to have wholly neglected the first grape vine which they visited so freely last year although it is covered with fruit this season.

Small birds

Partridge

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

October 10

Cloudy with violent N.E. wind. Frequent showers in a.m. and steady & rather heavy rain through the evening.

A Parula Warbler appeared in front of the cabin this morning in company with Chickadees. It was apparently a young ♂ and was very tame. This is a late date.

Wren
Warbler

I went to Boston on noon. As I was walking to the West Bedford Station through Parker's field I came upon a rather large flock of Chipping Sparrows accompanied by eight Bluebirds.

To Boston

" 11

Blue Skies covered half the heavens at sunrise and the sun shone clear on evening but most of the day was cloudy and there were a dozen or more heavy showers. The wind was strong from the N.W. and piercingly cold in the early evening.

Returned to Concord by the early morning train. As we were getting our things into the boat a Phoebe began singing near my new boat house. He kept it up almost without pause for nearly ten minutes and his voice was as full & strong & his notes as finished as at the height of the low season. It was delightful to hear him singing thus with the cold N.W. wind roaring through the tree tops & the sky obscured by gloomy clouds.

Phoebe in
full song.

Concord, Mass.

Bell's Hill

1900.

October 12

Cloudless most of the day and very warm with light W. wind. Late in the afternoon it fell calm and clouds overspread the sky. Still later there was a burst of S. wind.

At about half-past five this morning I went to the landing and looked off over the river & the meadows beyond. The air was brilliantly clear & deliciously soft & warm. A meadow lark & a Swamp Sparrow were singing across the river, Bluebirds were calling overhead. I could hear Rusty Blackbirds in the distance.

Pardon, who spent the night with me, walked to the farm in the forenoon. He saw three White-bellied Nuthatches in the old orchard and a large mixed flock in the brush near road near the school house consisted a dozen or more White-throated Sparrows and about 8 Bluebirds. There were also some Juncos & Sparrows of 20 Myiarchus Montezuma.

Pardon saw two pairs of Bluebirds prepping the nest of copulation after which they flitted through an apple orchard examining all the holes & crevices in the trees as if looking for nesting places just as they do in early spring.

As I was paddling up river this afternoon I saw a Hawk perched on a Alder near the head of Barnes Dam Road. It sat very erect and was long & slim in shape with a very long tail. I thought of a Red-bellied one but although the bird allowed me to approach within less than 20 yards I could not make out its coloring as the light came from behind it. When it flew it crossed the Barnes meadow & plunged into the woods beyond. Its flight was gliding & rather swift with alternating flapping & soaring. I landed & followed it starting it again from a tree on the edge of the meadow west of Holden's Hill. This time it was scarce 20 feet from me & I had a good view of its back & tail as it went off. It was ^{almost} certainly a young Red-bellied Hawk, or a Sharp-shinned Hawk. Its throat plumage & light grayish upper tail coverts were conspicuous.

Early morn.

Meadow Lark

Small birds
seen at the
farm.

Bluebirds
copulating

An oddly
colored

Red should'd
Hawk

1900.

October 13

Concord, Mass.

Bald's Hills.

Sunny, calm & warm up to nearly noon. Afternoon
cloudy with strong E. wind.

While paddling down river this forenoon I saw a Hawk
alight on a stake from which, near the top, fluttered a white
cotton flag as large as a towel. The stake was on the meadow
opposite Hobbs's Camp & on the edge of the river. The bird
was so tame that I paddled to within less than 15 yards
before it flew. It was evidently the same Hawk which
I saw yesterday & took to be a Gos Hawk but I had it
in a better light to-day and made certain that it was
a Red-shouldered Hawk in most regular plumage the wings
& upper parts being spotted profusely & coarsely with white
& the upper tail coverts very light gray. The under parts
were white with narrow sharp streaks of dark brown. It
looked very like the Sparrow I shot when I was a boy
in the Penn Marsh, Cambridge, & which years afterwards
was destroyed by weathers.

A Cat bird was running in the bushes near the
landing at Davis's Hall. I saw two Summer Sparrows
in Hedden's meadow.

Red should'd
Hawk

Cat bird

1900.

October 14

Spent with John Thayer to-day. He tells me that in this town he took last year a nest & 3 eggs of Dendroica aestiva. The nest was in mountain laurel. He finds several nests of Melospiza fasciata very common. They are found in chestnuts, usually, & rather low down. Melospiza fasciata breeds commonly also but is less common than M. lincolnii. Dendroica discolor is a very common breeder & I saw several Concord - Concord nests.

Thayer has a fine Golden Eagle which was taken when at Concord Mass. He also showed me a nest & 2 eggs of Piranga americana which he collected at N. Pond, Mass. in 1898. The nest closely resembles mine the things being those of a dove red sparrow & very rough on facing inside.

Golden
Eagle

" 15 - While driving about Concord to-day I saw several flocks of Robins, a large flock of Robins, a flock of about 12 Cedar Birds, a Winter Wren, a House Finch, many Junco & White-throated Sparrows, Song Sparrows etc.

Small birds

" 16 At about noon to-day with the sun ~~was~~ shining brightly we were driving through oak woods where a Barred Owl flew from a tree near the road & alighted a little further in being greatly startled at us until we were back of being out of view.

Barred
Owl
seen at
noon in
bright sun.

During this drive I also saw a Sapsucker & many common birds. Near the lower Meadow Lake was in early fall song this morning. At noon I saw an Osprey hovering over the Meadow River which at this point is no larger than the brook at Concord.

Saw another House Finch this morning.

Meadow
Lakes in
fall song.
House Finch

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

October 21

Clear and warm with strong S.W. wind.

For the past three days I have been very busily engaged reprimanding some work at or near the cabin & have had little opportunity to be much of the woods. This morning, however, I drove to the farm into Roland Haywood and walked back through the woods. The weather was delightful but we saw almost no birds excepting a flock of Juncos, two Kinglets, a Downy Woodpecker, & a few Crows & Jays.

Small Birds

As we were driving through the wooded road beyond Dennis we passed a Partridge which was standing erect & still on the top stone of an old wall. We flushed three others at the south end of Dennis Hill & one of them ran slowly ahead of us for several yards before rising.

Partridges

" 22.

Cloudless, calm, very warm for the season (therm 72° at noon)

Two Hermit Thrushes spent yesterday & to-day in the thicket at the E. end of Balls Hill. They hopped along and pecked like Robins and I saw them eating hawthorn berries. They were very tame. During both days they were silent but last evening and this I heard them chucking continuously & usually for five minutes or more just as I used to see Joffrey last July after they had finished the evening singing.

Hermit Thrushes

Early this afternoon two Red-bellied Gophers were slowly driven past the cabin slipping close to the opposite shore. One looked a third larger than the other. Raymond Emerson shot one of these Gophers near the bridge last month and shot at last missed another off Birch Island yesterday morning. He also saw five Wood Ducks in the Assabet near the humbolls a few days ago.

Red-bellied Gophers

Wood Ducks

Concord, Mass.

Balls this

1900.

October 23

Clear & very warm with S. W. wind. Therm. 52°, 77°, 67°

A Hermit Heron, 4 Chickadees, 4 Golden-crowned Kinglets,
a White-throated Sparrow, 2 Black-poll Warblers, and a Downy Woodpecker
visited the cabin to-day. I also heard Robins, Bluebirds, Goldfinches,
and Rusty Blackbirds calling as they flew over or near the Hill.

The Hermit sang for fifteen or twenty minutes at intervals in
the early morning but in tone so low & husky that his notes were
scarcely recognizable. He also chattered and gave the night call.
During the forenoon he repeatedly visited and hopped about over
a patch of fresh-dug earth which the men had spread on one
of the paths. Although I watched him for some time I did
not once see him jerk up his tail. I have often supposed
that this motion is seldom if ever indulged in excepting
when the bird is conscious that he is observed and is also
either highly alarmed or somewhat suspicious.

Small birds

seen near

the cabin

Hermit

Thrush.

Concord, Mass.

Balls' Hill.

1900.

November 4

During the past ten days I have made no entry in this journal although I have been living all the while at Balls' Hill and spending much of my time in the woods. But the sum of each days observation has been so slight as not to seem worth recording even by the brief entries in the field list. I cannot remember a season when birds of all kinds have been so scarce. None of the regular "winter visitors" have as yet appeared & of the regular late autumn migrants there have been very few. There have been about no Ducks & only an occasional Hawk, which I have heard only two or three times (the meadow has been too dry for them). Parnassians have been painfully scarce but it is said that there are a good many Leucis although I have seen none. Several large flocks of juncos were about during the last week of October but none of the other small birds have been scarce. Chickadees have been about wanting. I do not see more than from a pair daily & rarely more than two or three together.

I spent to-day at the farm and there were, comparatively speaking, a good many small birds there. I saw two Winter-birded Nuthatches, a Goldfinch, a flock of 30 House Squirrels (flying S. W. past the house) & a flock of 16 Purple Finches (flying over the orchard). A Song Sparrow was chirping near the house & I heard a Kinglet & a Cuckoo in the woods. A solitary Goldfinch was feeding among some tall weeds in the garden. Jays were leaving & a Downy Woodpecker against a dry branch.

An enormous flock of Crows passed southward high up at about 10 a.m. They flew past in a continuous stream upwards of a mile in length. I counted them roughly & made 320 birds. A smaller flock passed an hour later.

Birds of all kinds scarce. - no winter birds. Light migration. Ducks, Hawks & single very scarce. Also Parnassians. Leucis

Small birds nest at the farm.

migration. flight of Crows.

Bethel, Maine

1900.

Dec. 3-31

I came to Bethel on the 3rd and have spent the month there excepting one week (22nd to 29th) when I returned to Cambridge for the Christmas holidays.

At the time of my arrival there was nearly a foot of snow which had fallen about a week previously and was so strongly crusted as to bear one's weight in most places in the open fields.

The second snow fall of the season and the only one for the present month (excepting two or three trifling squalls or flurries of an inch or less) began on the evening of the 4th and lasted through the following night and the greater part of the next day (5th) about eighteen inches of fine, dry snow falling on this occasion. It drifted but little as it came and save in the most exposed places it clung to the branches of the trees loading down those of the evergreens to a degree which I have seldom seen equalled elsewhere & which I was told is unusual here.

Following this storm we had a week or more of severe weather the thermometer dropping to 10° below zero on several occasions at Dr. Thayer's and once, it is said, to 22° below at the Grand Junction R. R. Station which is probably 200 feet below the level of our house and in still cold weather usually shows a temperature 8° or 10° degrees lower.

The last twelve days of the month were comparatively mild the mercury rising to 40° at midday on several occasions and on one or two remaining above the freezing point during the winter night as well. The snow melted rapidly during this period and at the close of the month was reduced to but little more than a foot which was covered with a thin, icy crust.

There were only two or three windy days during the month and the sun shone brightly from a clear sky most of the time.

Bethel, Maine.

1900.

Dec. 3-31

Excepting on the occasion of the snow storm I spent from one to three or four hours of every day out of doors. During the first two weeks my daily walks were usually taken in the afternoon up a wood road which starts in from the main road a hundred yards or so to the westward of our avenue and extends to the southward for a distance (it is said) of three or four miles, passing for the first half mile or so through thickets of alders and densely-growing cypresses of gray birches covering level and rather low and swampy ground, then ascending by a succession of moderately steep pitches to the crest (or perhaps shoulder) of a ridge clothed with an conifer forest of mixed balsams, hemlocks, red spruces and alder vines intermingled with a good many soft ~~white~~ fir and a few hard wood trees among which the coarse and yellow birches perhaps predominate. For a distance of one two hundred yards along this ridge the road runs nearly straight between through a growth of vigorous young balsams thirty or forty feet in height whose branches in most places meet ~~at~~ interlace over the roadway forming arched vistas of singular beauty.

1900.

December. The weather during December has been very mild. During but five days, the 10th, 12th, 14th, 15th & 16th, did the mercury fall below the freezing point. 10° on the 10th was the lowest recorded, while a maximum of 53° was reached on the 24th. On every day except the 10th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th & 27th, the mercury rose to 35° or more, while on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 7th, 13th, 19th, 20th, 23rd, 24th, 25th & 31st, a record of 45° or more was reached. An average minimum of 30° and maximum of 40° will give an idea of the mild character of the weather. These observations refer to the time between daylight and dark. While no records of the night temperature were made, the nights were, with but few exceptions, mild.

Very light snow, rapidly disappearing, fell on the 4th, 11th, 15th, 18th & 23th. Rain fell on the 4th, 23th, 30th & 31st. All the rest of the month was clear or cloudy, while on the 14 days the sun shone brightly from its rising to its setting. These days were, 1 - 2 - 3 - 6 - 10 - 12 - 14 - 17 - 18 - 20 - 22 - 27 - 29 - 30. There was a fog on the night of the 24th followed by freezing, and the next morning, Christmas day, under a bright, clear sky, every tree glistened with diamonds, formed of the frozen drops.

A strong S.E. gale blew on the 4th, and on the 10th there was a sharp N.W. wind, but with these exceptions there have

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

December. been either calm days or light breezes, the prevailing direction of the wind being west, veering to northwest or southwest.

The chief interest attaching to the December birds about Cambridge centers in the water fowl at Fresh Pond and in the somewhat unusual number of Northern Shrikes present in our neighborhood. Most of the notes and observations on which the record is based were furnished me by Mr. Walter Deane, I having been absent (at Bethel, Maine) during the month with the exception of Christmas week which I spent at home. Fresh Pond continued open until the 10th when it became covered with a thin sheet of ice. This persisted through the remainder of the month but a lane of open water appeared soon after the 10th off the end of Hemlock Point and gradually extended to the opposite (northern) shore finally attaining a width of at least 200 yards. This combination of conditions - extensive tracts of ice sufficiently firm for the birds to rest and sleep on and plenty of open water for them to swim and bathe in - attracted the water fowl in somewhat unusual variety and wholly unprecedented numbers.

Mr. Deane kept them under fairly close observation visiting the Pond nearly every pleasant morning; I was there

Water fowl
at
Fresh Pond

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

Water fowl
at
Fresh Pond.

December. on the 23rd, 24th and 26th, and several other observers be-

(3). sides Mr. Deane and myself made more or less frequent visits.

The full list of species noted is as follows:- One Mallard, large numbers of Black Ducks, a few Scaup Ducks and Golden-eyes, one good-sized flock of Ruddy Ducks, several Black-backed Gulls and multitudes of Herring Gulls.

The Mallard, a fine old drake, was seen as early as October 15 (by Mr. O.A. Lothrop) and as late as December 26 (by Mr. W. Deane). During most of the latter month he was present almost daily. His striking coloring made him conspicuous among the Black Ducks (with which he constantly associated), at a distance of half-a-mile or more, and when, as often happened, he was seen standing on the ice not far from shore the coral red coloring of his legs was especially noticeable. The Black Ducks were constantly present. Their numbers varied somewhat from day to day but usually there were at least one hundred and often more (the highest count, made on the 3th, was 252) swimming or floating asleep in detached groups over a large part of the Pond. They were evidently quite at their ease paying no attention whatever to the carriages passing along the park driveway and often chasing one another about in sport while at times they made the air ring with their loud quacking. After the Pond skimmed

Mallard
drake.

Black Ducks.

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

Water fowl
at
Fresh Pond

December. over they spent much of their time on the ice stretched out
(4). in long lines along the edge of the piece of open water.
When the light was good one could easily distinguish the red-
legged from the brown-legged birds, by the aid of a glass.

On December 3th, Mr. Deane noted six Scaups which he / Lesser Scaups
thinks were affinis. They came flying in from the south and,
after describing a wide curve over the "bedded" Herring Gulls
and Black Ducks, dropped into the water facing him, "their
white under parts flashing in the sunlight". On the 24th I
saw a flock of six Whistlers rise from the western side of the
Pond and fly off in the direction of Charles River.

The Ruddy Ducks attracted especial attention and interest / Ruddy
during their prolonged visit. They were first noted on Novem- Ducks
ber 17th (by Mr. Lothrop). From this date up to December 14th,
when they were last seen (by Mr. Deane), they were invariably
present whenever the Pond was visited, both in the morning
and afternoon, excepting on December 12th when, at 3 P.M.,
Mr. Deane failed to find any trace of them. Their numbers,
strange to say, varied more or less from day to day as well
as from week to week. On November 17th the flock consisted
of fifteen birds. On the 22nd and 26th I counted them with
the greatest care and fully satisfied myself that on each
occasion there were seventeen, besides a Lesser Scaup Duck.

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

Water fowl
at
Fresh Pond.
Ruddy
Ducks



December, which was keeping them company at that time. After this date
(5). Mr. Deane's counts, made at frequent intervals, gave fourteen, fifteen or sixteen daily up to December 9th when but five were seen, though on the preceding day Mr. G. M. Allen had noted fifteen. On December 10th there were still only five but on number the 14th Mr. Deane counted six. Had the flock invariably decreased it would be natural to assume that the missing birds either migrated southward, a few at a time, or were shot while away from the Pond; as the case stands the most reasonable explanation seems to be that certain members of the flock had other resorts where they spent a portion of their time, and that on the night of the 8th all but six birds departed for the south, the remainder following on the night of the 14th when the particular part of the Pond which they had frequented froze over.


This was Cambridge Nook and here they were invariably seen during their entire stay; either in a close bunch not far from shore (often within 100 yards) with heads buried at their scapular feathers, sleeping, or scattered about over an area of half an acre or more, moving restlessly from place to place and diving incessantly for food. They swam exceedingly fast with bodies so deeply immersed that scarce more than the feathers of the back, with the head and neck, were exposed. Their tails were carried at various angles, sometimes in line

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Water fowl
at
Fresh Pond

1900.

December, with the body , ordinarily raised a little above it .

(3). occasionally conspicuously elevated , and at least half opened. They were expert and graceful divers disappearing with one abrupt, vigorous, forward spring, like Mergansers and cleaving the water so deftly as to scarce ruffle its surface.

Ruddy
Ducks

Of all the birds which frequented the Pond the Herring Gulls were the most numerous, conspicuous and attractive. Their numbers generally rose far into the hundreds and on December 23rd Mr. Deane estimated that fully 1000 were present while on the 25th he actually counted 1375. They usually began assembling at about 3 A.M. or a little later, arriving in flocks of from six or eight to fifty or sixty birds each. Most of them came from the direction of Lynn or Revere (i.e. from the north-east or east) but a good many, evidently, from Charles River Basin (i.e. from the south or south-east). As they neared the shore they ceased flapping and glided with infinite ease and grace on motionless wings, down a long, gentle decline towards the middle of the Pond where, after wheeling once or twice, they alighted among the comrades who had preceded them. During the height of the flight they often came in a steady stream for minutes at a time. The incoming movement ordinarily ceased wholly at 11 A.M. or a little later.

Herring
Gulls

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

Water fowl
at
Fresh Pond
/ Herring
Gulls

December. If the day was cold and windy comparatively ^{few} would appear, and
(7). if a strong wind arose after a large number had assembled they would at once begin leaving singly or in small flocks. But when the weather continued calm and mild most of them would linger for hours swimming about or sleeping, while two or three hundred would often remain until late in the afternoon. Those which stayed late departed all together or in two or three detachments, and invariably before sunset. Leaving the water as if at a given signal, one hundred or more together at the same instant, they would fly straight down into Cambridge Nook rising steadily but at a slight angle as they advanced. On coming over the land they would cease flapping and begin soaring in circles mounting higher and higher and gradually drifting off before the light evening air until lost to sight in the dim distance. It was a beautiful - nay an imposing sight, that of the return flight of the cloud of great snow-white birds to their home, the ocean.

Northern Shrikes have been exceptionally numerous. One / Shrikes
has frequented our garden, two have been seen regularly at Fresh Pond, two others at Lower Mystic Pond, one at Arlington Heights, one at Waverley and one at the Botanic Garden. There can be little or no doubt that all these were different birds.

1900

December.

Masters Eustis and Kidder have found a large number of

Shrikes

(8).

grasshoppers and caterpillars impaled on sharp buds of low shrubs by the Lower Mystic Pond; they have also found in the Maple Swamp two whole Meadow Mice (Microtus pensylvanicus) in the forks of branches of the Shad and Button Bushes besides the head of another Mouse of the same species, also in a fork. Both of the whole mice were mounted by Frazer in the exact position in which they were found and both were photographed by Gilbert while one of the specimens was afterwards given to me by Master Kidder and is now in the Museum.

Cedar Birds have been present most of the month in small numbers. Mr. Deane saw a flock of fourteen in the garden on the 21st. They have also been seen in Hubbard Park and at Payson Park, Belmont.

Cedar Birds

Two Kingfishers have been noted, one by Mr. George C. Deane at Fresh Pond on the 1st, the other by Mr. Hoffmann at Mystic Pond on the 2nd. Three Meadow Larks were observed by Mr. G. C. Deane at Fresh Pond on the 1st.

Kingfishers

A Pigeon Hawk has apparently spent the entire month at Fresh Pond for it was noted there on the 8th, 19th, 24th and 30th. Mr. Deane who, on two occasions, had a clear view of it in a good light, tells me that it was an adult male with deep blue upper parts. I saw it only once (the 24th) and then,

Pigeon Hawk

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

December. flying, at a considerable distance. It frequented the hemlock grove most of the time.

Red-headed Woodpecker

A Red-headed Woodpecker has frequented the woods by Lower Mystic Pond during the fall and winter for at least a month and a half. It was seen by Masters Ted Kidder and Richard Eustis on October 31, November 3, 24, 25, 29, December 9, 16. locality
The exact[^] is the grove at the further end of the plateau that stretches behind the cemetery in Arlington. I saw the bird on the 9th of December. It was an immature bird, the head beginning to show signs of red. Richard thinks he saw two birds on November 3, and he feels positive that he saw two on November 24.

Mr. G. C. Deane saw a flock of 12 Juncos in Arlington on / Juncos
December and on December 31 Dr. Charles W. Townsend saw a Song Sparrow in the Back Bay Fens. Not a single Red-breasted Nuthatch was reported by members of the Nuttall Club or others and the only instances recorded of the appearance of Red Crossbills were one on the 25th at Belmont by Mr. Ralph Hoffmann and one on the 26th at the Arnold Arboretum by Mr. H. W. Wright. Mr. Hoffmann on the 25th, at Fresh Pond, saw 30 Tree Sparrows and 14 Song Sparrows, and in Belmont besides the commoner birds, two Purple Finches, four White-breasted Nuthatches and ten Golden-crowned Kinglets.

Mr. H. W. Wright saw in the Arnold Arboretum on the 26th,

1900.

December. 12 - 15 Quail, 18 Goldfinches, 6 Tree Sparrows, 7 Myrtle Warblers, 2 Song Sparrows and other commoner species.

Herring Gulls and Whistlers with an occasional Black-backed Gull have appeared off Harvard Bridge as usual, while Chickadees, Crows, Jays, Flickers, Downy Woodpeckers and Brown Creepers have been present in greater or less numbers during the month. These with the ever-present English Sparrow make up the list.

December Garden Birds.

The birds seen in or flying over the garden during the month are as follows:-

1. Regulus satrapa.

Twice on the 23th, Mr. Deane saw a pair flitting about in front of his window in the Museum.

2. Parus atricapillus.

Chickadees have been present through the month in small numbers. The largest flock, one of six individuals, was seen on the 17th. Though a lump of suet was hung in the crab apple tree early in the month it was visited but three times, once on the 26th, the 28th and the 29th, each time by a single bird. The mild weather of December has not interfered with their ordinary supply of food.

1900.

December. 3. Certhia americana fusca.

(11). One was seen in the lindens on the 23rd.

4. Lanius borealis.

On the 18th a Northern Shrike appeared in one of the lindens and for fifteen minutes sang loud and clear. Half an hour later he sang for ten minutes in the same place. Mr. Deane says that there was much music in the song which resembled in many ways that of a Catbird and a Robin. On the 21st he saw a Shrike chase, catch, kill, impale and eat an English Sparrow. Twice after, on the 24th and 29th, the Shrike was singing in the lindens, and on the 31st he was seen chasing an English Sparrow. Mr. Deane made some some peculiarly interesting observations on this Shrike which haunted our garden and I insert them here in his own words:—

1900.

Dec. 21. " To-day in Mr. William Brewster's garden I witnessed the
(12). catching, putting into the forks of branches, the impaling
and eating of an English Sparrow by a Northern Shrike (Lanius borealis). It was a remarkable and never-to-be-forgotten sight. I was sitting at my window in the Museum at about twenty-five minutes after twelve. The sky was cloudy, there was no breeze, the mercury was 39°, and the air was chilly. Suddenly I saw a Shrike, doubtless the same bird that I saw and heard sing on December 18th, alight in the cluster of lilacs now bare of leaves between me and the house and but a few rods away. I called Gilbert, Mr. Brewster's assistant, who was in the adjoining room and he saw with me everything that I shall relate. The Shrike in a few seconds darted through the lilacs in hot pursuit of an English Sparrow. He overtook and pounced on his prey just outside the lilacs within full sight of us, by the path that leads past the pond. The Sparrow, however, escaped and, darting along the edge of shrubbery directly towards us, sank into the bushes by the path running by my front window. The Shrike following plunged into the bushes also but soon appeared above the clump without the Sparrow, but all animation, his tail in active motion. Immediately the Sparrow darted from beneath the bush over the board walk in front of the Museum. The Shrike darted after it like lightning, and we hastened to the window in the entry,

1900.


December. just in time to see that the Shrike had caught his quarry on (13). the open ground directly in front of the door. A few well directed raps despatched the Sparrow, and then we hastened out of the building to see the sequel. The Shrike seizing the dead bird in his bill flew over the center of the garden, alighting in one of the trees by the pond about thirty yards off. As we cautiously advanced in that direction, our bird, with the Sparrow hanging from his bill, started off and flew to the north end of the garden and then, circling about, flew low down directly over our heads as we stood in the path by the pond, and alighted in the lilacs some eight or ten feet up, on the east side of and near the path in which we were. We stood by the Parkman's apple tree, twenty yards from the bird and with my glass every movement was depicted with absolute clearness.

Close by where the bird was standing was a fork made by two small branches. The Shrike deftly swung the Sparrow into the fork, and pulling hard for three or four times, secured it. The bird did not assist the operation by flapping its wings. This we noticed carefully. Every movement was plainly seen. Then the Butcher Bird, a fitting name surely, began plucking the feathers from the bird but after four or five pecks. the Sparrow, not being securely enough fastened, was

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

December. dislodged and fell to the ground. The Shrike following picked (14). it up in his bill and flew to another branch but a few feet from the one used before, and then selecting another crotch fastened his prey again. After pulling out a few more feathers he appeared dissatisfied with the situation, and again taking the bird in his bill flew to a neighboring branch in full view of us and just twenty yards away. There selecting a short, thorn-like branch, the Shrike gave us an exhibition of the entire process of impaling. This small stem I examined later. It was about an inch long and the size of an ordinary slate pencil and had a rather blunt end. The Shrike stood on the branch just below this thorn which inclined away from him, the branch itself standing at an angle of about 45 degrees with the ground. Then holding the Sparrow tightly by the neck he threw the body up several times, until he got it on to the end of the thorn. Then bracing with his feet, extending his neck and pulling backwards, he tugged and tugged jerking and jerking with all his might, until he had pulled the Sparrow on to the thorn down to the very branch. the end of the thorn entering the bird's breast. Neither on this occasion nor that of fastening the bird in the fork did I notice any movement of the birds wings. I watched this whole operation through my glass every motion and every marking of the



1900.

December. bird being as clearly defined as if I had him in my hands.

(15). About fifteen minutes had now been consumed since we had seen the Shrike in the beginning.

The bird now stripped off more feathers and then began tearing off and swallowing bits of red, raw, warm flesh. He had secured his bird strongly this time, for during all the pulling and tugging that the poor Sparrow received it remained firm on its peg. This dish of English meat seemed to agree well with our Shrike for he attacked it with renewed zest. and ere long the bloody head with the skin entirely off the top of the skull fell to the ground beneath. For twenty minutes we watched the Shrike eating the bird.

At intervals
Whenever he pulled off a ~~rather larger~~ bit of flesh ~~than usual~~, he flew off with it, exactly after the fashion of a Chickadee when it breaks off a piece of suet. Twice I saw the Shrike swallow the bit after alighting on a branch near us, once on the big apple tree by the lilacs, and once on the English Hawthorn but thirteen yards from us. What he did on other occasions, for he flew off at least six times, and why he acted so I do not know. The natural supposition would be that he stored these bits of flesh, as we know the Chickadees do with the suet, but it seems impossible that he should ever again make use of such small morsels which were never larger

1900.

December. than two-thirds the size of an ordinary pea. for they would
(16). soon dry up into minute particles.

Once the Shrike, returning from one of these flights which were never more than two minutes long, and generally under a minute, perched on the top of the elm in the driveway, and gave vent to a series of cat-like whines doubtless expressive of satisfaction after his dainty meal. Once the near approach of a Gray Squirrel frightened him off for a minute. At last ten minutes having elapsed after one of his flights we decided that he had finished his meal, and we visited more closely the spot. One wing of the Sparrow was stripped bare to the bone. I intended to examine the bird later to see just how much was gone, but two hours afterwards on visiting the spot we found that the Shrike had removed the remains of his feast to another locality. We found nothing but the head of the bird on the ground beneath.

Whether the Shrike used his feet at all when attacking the Sparrow we were unable to say. Once when the bird was in the lilacs and just before he put the Sparrow in the second crotch I saw him lay the bird on a branch and hold him there a short time with one foot, loosening his hold on him with his bill entirely.

During all this period and till late in the afternoon

1900.

December. the English Sparrows were conspicuous by their entire absence.

(17). About four o'clock a flock of about twenty-five whirled rapidly over the garden and a minute or two later the Shrike dashed by. I saw the Shrike once more, and shortly after a flock of about a dozen Sparrows perched in the top of the big apple tree, appearing much excited and keeping a very sharp lookout. They flew off soon and the increasing twilight shut out anything more from view.

1900.

December. 5. Ampelis cedrorum.

(18).

A flock of 14 appeared on the 21st and spent some time feeding on the berries of the Highbush Cranberry (Viburnum opulus).

6. Passer domesticus.

English Sparrows have been present through the month but their numbers have been very irregular. For some days in succession none were seen at all, and then a flock of 20 or 30 would appear and fly about the garden feeding as usual.

7. Dryobates pubescens medianus.

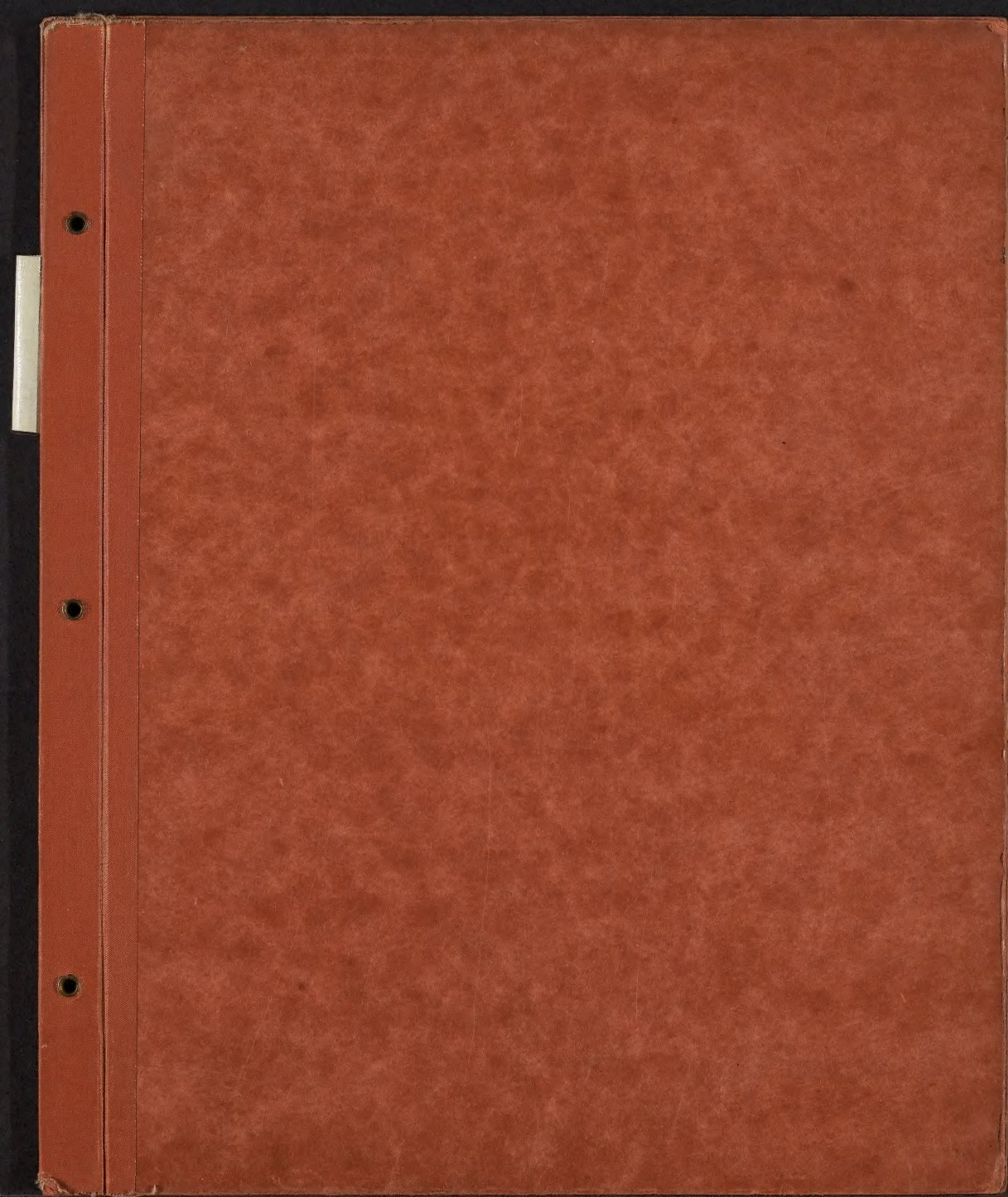
Two were seen occasionally by Mrs. Brewster, feeding on the suet over the driveway.

8. Corvus americanus.

Occasionally a Crow flew over the garden or alighted in one of the lindens.

9. Colaptes auratus luteus.

On December 1, 4, 5, 17, 18 we saw a Flicker. On the 5th and 18th one was feeding on Parkman's apples.



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(B. mass.)